

A British Airways Concorde appears to hover over Ben-Gurion Airport yesterday (story below).

(Yossi Aloni, IPPA)

Mubarak says army ready to face Libya

CAIRO. — President Hosni Mubarak said yesterday the Egyptian armed forces are in a high state of readiness following Libyan threats to assist revolution in Egypt and Sudan because of their links with the U.S.

Asked about reports that military alertness and internal security had been stepped up, Mubarak told reporters: "I am not denying anything. We have raised the state of readiness."

But he said Egypt is "not nervous" and had no intention of attacking its neighbors "under any circumstances."

Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi said on Wednesday he is ready to "upset the balance" in northeast Africa unless the U.S. withdrew from Egypt and Sudan, which he criticized for enlisting the aid of American Awacs reconnaissance planes.

Gaddafi also said Libyans and Egyptians could cross their common border, closed since 1974 except for brief periods, with im-

mediate effect. This came amid reports Libya might send marchers across the frontier to promote the idea of a Libyan-Egyptian merger.

Asked if there were any signs Libyans are crossing the frontier, Mubarak said: "We do not consider what Libya has said as a very important matter. We are not nervous."

A Libyan aircraft violated Sudanese airspace in the northwest region on Tuesday and was tracked by American surveillance planes that have been sent here to improve Sudan's air defences, a Sudanese presidential aide said.

The aide, who wished to remain anonymous, would not say what kind of plane was involved, how far it had penetrated or whether it was challenged.

Washington sent two Awacs aircraft to Egypt to monitor Libya's long border with Egypt and Sudan after the two nations blamed Libya for the March 16 bombing of the Sudanese state radio station. (Reuters, AP)

Five IDF soldiers wounded in two more Lebanon attacks

By MENAHEM HOROWITZ
Jerusalem Post Reporter

METULLA. — Five Israeli soldiers were wounded yesterday in Lebanon, four of them in the western sector and one in the east.

A bomb went off as three IDF vehicles drove by the village of Reihan, nine kilometres east of Nabatiya. No one was hurt, but troops were called in to search the area and one of the soldiers stepped on a mine. Four men were wounded in the ensuing explosion.

Five more bombs were found and defused in the area without damage.

In the east, near the village of Yamta, an Israeli soldier was slightly wounded by shots fired from Syrian-controlled territory. It is thought that the attackers were Palestinian or Lebanese, not Syrian soldiers.

In the centre of Sidon, a hand grenade was thrown yesterday at a convoy of Israeli vehicles. There were no casualties.

Beirut cease-fire holding

BEIRUT (AP). — Lebanese police and French observers yesterday deployed in buffer positions along Beirut's demarcation line, as President Amin Jemayel struggled to get a cease-fire firmly in place before the weekend withdrawal of France's peace-keeping force from Lebanon.

The takeover operation yesterday morning was carried out with no major hitches, only 24 hours after heavy random bombardment killed more than 20 people and wounded

at least 150 in both sectors of the divided capital.

The state radio said representatives of Christian and Moslem militia groups agreed at a meeting with Jemayel to refrain from indiscriminate shelling and to hold further discussions last night to work out a plan for disengaging civil-war combatants.

A joint operations room was set up near the only open crossing point (Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)

AS PARTIES GIRD FOR JULY ELECTION

Herut tries to deter Levy bid

Navon expected to avoid a fight

Post Political Reporter
TEL AVIV. — If Deputy Prime Minister David Levy decides to challenge Prime Minister Shamir for the Herut leadership, he will have to mount a very high hurdle — a 51 per cent majority.

This hurdle is being created to deter Levy from seeking to challenge Shamir, especially as Labour appears to be putting its own house in order and avoiding a leadership showdown.

Anxiety is increasing in Herut that Levy will toss his hat in the ring although his chances of defeating an incumbent prime minister are considered small. Such a challenge could harm Likud electoral prospects.

One line of thought in Herut is that Levy may be encouraged to enter the fray because of Minister-without-Portfolio Ariel Sharon's apparent insistence on challenging Shamir. If a three-way race emerges, some in the Levy camp believe that he might overcome Shamir if Sharon bites into the premier's support.

During the last Levy-Shamir showdown, after Menachem Begin's resignation as prime minister, Sharon supported Shamir. Levy has always contended that this helped Shamir defeat him.

But if three candidates contend, Levy believes he might get a plurality. However, the Shamir camp is preparing to make an absolute majority mandatory, which might lead to a second round in which Levy and Shamir would again find themselves pitted against each other. In such a situation, Shamir, it is thought in Herut, would have little trouble defeating Levy. Shamir will have no trouble convincing the party's central committee to adopt the absolute majority requirement, say party insiders.

If Levy opts out and Sharon alone challenges Shamir, it is thought that Shamir could easily trounce Sharon. However, attempts were still being made yesterday to talk Sharon out of his declared intention of running against Shamir, in the hope that this would keep Levy out of the contest as well.

Pressure was building up yesterday in Herut against any showdown. MK Meir Shitrit has started petitioning central committee (Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

By SARAH HONIG
Post Political Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Labour circles yesterday expressed a strong wish to avoid a new leadership confrontation, and all eyes focused on former president Yitzhak Navon, who has called a press conference in Jerusalem this morning to announce his decision.

Observers believe Navon will telephone Labour chairman Shimon Peres to notify him whether he would join Labour's leadership team or whether he intends to openly challenge Peres for the number one slot.

A third option seemed to be that Navon would opt out of politics altogether for the time being.

The emerging consensus in many quarters in the party is that Navon will not challenge Peres. An open confrontation of this sort goes against Navon's character, it is thought, and would go against the prevailing sentiment in Labour, which is overwhelmingly against any internal discord which might harm the party's electoral prospects.

But yesterday, a new concern surfaced among party activists, especially in circles close to Peres —

that Navon would both decline to challenge Peres and refuse the offer of the party's number-two slot, staying away from the campaign altogether. This could severely hurt the party, robbing it of Navon's considerable electoral appeal.

This speculation was accentuated by a comment Navon was overheard to make several times to the effect that he would not like to be another Shoshana Arbeli-Almosino. She was featured in the party's number-two slot during the 1981 election campaign, but was never granted any real say in Labour affairs and was regarded mainly as an ornament, chosen because she is a woman and of oriental origin.

Whatever Navon's decision, it is now thought in Labour that he will not announce it, as previously planned, in a meeting with Peres and former prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, but will inform each of them of his decision by phone.

Navon yesterday conferred with his supporters, who continued to urge him to seek the leadership position. That would entail a battle, as Peres has made it abundantly clear to Navon that he will not voluntarily yield first place.

Peres is reportedly ready to make (Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)

Tehiya leaders deliberate entering nationalist bloc

By SARAH HONIG
Post Political Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The Tehiya central committee continued to deliberate last night over whether to run on its own or try to create a nationalist bloc.

The bloc idea is sponsored by MK Geula Cohen and the concern in Tehiya is that if the plan is turned down, she may well bolt the party and return to Herut.

Rabbi Haim Druckman of Matzad has said his party will not run as part of such a bloc, although it is quite prepared to agree to its formation in the Knesset after the elections. Druckman says he and former Tehiya MK Hanan Porat will press on with their attempts to create a new Zionist religious party — Orot — even if the National Religious Party does not join.

In Tehiya, there is considerable opposition to the Cohen plan for a technical electoral bloc that would also include the Likud. The NRP has already turned down the notion and the Likud is not unified in its response.

Contacts between Porat and Druckman on the one side and NRP representatives on the other for the purpose of unifying the entire national-religious movement in Orot are all but at a standstill. If no progress is made, Druckman and Porat will pursue the Orot venture on their own and will begin organizing next week. The Jerusalem Post has learned. Druckman suggested an Orot-NRP bloc that would then form an electoral front with Agudat Yisrael, placing all religious parties on one ticket. But this idea is hardly likely to get Aguda blessing.

Israeli silence annoys U.S. backers of embassy bill

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — Democratic Sen. Daniel Moynihan of New York and other co-sponsors of legislation to force the transfer of the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem are becoming increasingly irritated over what they suggest is the inclination of Israeli officials and American Jewish lobbyists to avoid an all-out confrontation with the Reagan administration on the sensitive issue.

Given the generally smooth state of American-Israeli ties right now, Israeli officials here and in Jerusalem have privately expressed hope that a compromise might be reached whereby President Reagan would not be faced with the necessity of either signing or vetoing Moynihan's bill.

They have expressed concern that this could negatively affect U.S.-Israeli ties, although they, of course, publicly maintain support for having the U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem.

Reagan, in an interview yesterday

in The New York Times, reiterated his opposition to any change in U.S. policy toward Jerusalem. Asked whether he would veto the bill if passed by the Senate and House of Representatives in the coming weeks, he replied: "I am hoping I won't have to."

He went on to explain: "Like the several presidents before me, I think that that is a most unwise thing. It should never have been introduced in our Congress. The effort should never have been made, because if we are to have a negotiated peace that will end once and for all the hostility between the Arab world and Israel, then that would be one of the things to be negotiated. The place of Jerusalem, the West Bank, things of this kind."

"These are all the matters that must be negotiated between these forces. And the U.S. has no right to put itself in a position of trying to lean one way or the other on those areas of negotiation."

Secretary of State George Shultz met yesterday with several

Republican senators to urge them to oppose Moynihan's bill.

The matter in recent weeks has come to the forefront of public attention in the U.S. as both leading Democratic presidential frontrunners, Walter Mondale and Gary Hart, have endorsed the move.

In a one-hour, nationally-televised debate in New York on Wednesday night, Hart and Mondale clearly sought to project a more pro-Israeli image than the other. The New York primary is Tuesday.

Mondale came out flatly against this concept of a Palestinian "homeland" on the West Bank and Gaza, insisting that the only formula which should be advanced is that called for in the Camp David accords.

Hart again complained about Mondale's support of the Carter administration's 1978 "package" sale of F-15 fighters to Saudi Arabia. At that time, Mondale was vice-president. He has since insisted that he privately opposed the sale during

the internal administration decision-making process.

Regarding the embassy, Moynihan and his supporters have been upset by press reports from Washington and Jerusalem suggesting that the Israeli government and the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, the major pro-Israel lobbying organization, are lukewarm on the bill, anxiously looking for some compromise.

Congressional Democrats sense they can score important points with the Jewish community by pressing the issue during this election year. A Reagan veto would certainly upset Israel's supporters.

To avoid that scenario, all sorts of compromises have been suggested, but Moynihan and the others, for the time being, seem to be standing firmly behind the legislation. They have been angered by what they privately charge has been the "weak-kneed" reaction of the Israeli government and Aipac in the face of administration pressure. (Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

Seven children, three soldiers hurt in Gaza Strip grenade attack

Scattered pre-Land Day incidents in West Bank

By DAVID RICHARDSON
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — A single small Palestinian flag hanging limply from an electricity pylon and a few small rocks scattered across the road in this quiet Christian village near the settlement of Ofra in the West Bank were the only signs of protest here yesterday. But elsewhere in the territories, there were more serious expressions of nationalist sentiment as Land Day was marked by local Arabs.

Seven local children and three Israeli soldiers were slightly wounded during a grenade attack in the Jabalya refugee camp in the

Gaza Strip, and on Wednesday evening, two youths were wounded when fire was opened during a rock-throwing incident in the Ein Beit Alma refugee camp outside Nablus.

Traditionally observed on March 30, to commemorate the 1976 shooting of six Israeli Arabs during demonstrations to protest large-scale land expropriations in Galilee, West Bank Arabs are reported to have moved their protests forward or delayed them to tomorrow to avoid clashing with the Moslem Sabbath.

Military and local sources yesterday reported rock-throwing, tire-burning and flag-raising in Ramallah, Al-Bira and Nablus, and from

the Askar, Balata, Ein Beit Alma, Amari and Jalazun refugee camps.

There were disturbances in schools in Ramallah, Kabatya and Beit Sahur, where the army ordered classes closed for the day. At the Kiryat Arba school in Jenin, troops fired into the air to disperse demonstrating pupils.

An Israeli was injured in the head when a rock was hurled through the window of a bus travelling from Kiryat Arba to Jerusalem as it passed through Halhul. The town straddles the main road from Hebron to Jerusalem.

At Birzeit University north of Ramallah, a traditional focus for nationalist sentiment and activity,

students were outside enjoying the spring weather on the new campus, where they have been moved since the army closed the old compound two months ago. There was no evidence at all that they were aware of Land Day, which security sources anticipate will pass far more quietly than it has in the past.

Reuter adds: In Damascus, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, led by George Habash, said in a statement here that one of its units made the attack on a patrol at Jabalya camp, "killing or wounding six Israeli soldiers and destroying their vehicle."

(Land Day in Israel, page 3)

Francis the Duck delays Concorde flight

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — A magician's duck yesterday delayed the departure of a British Airways Concorde for nearly half an hour.

The gleaming white jet eventually took off — without the duck. It was the second of two flights which brought a total of 198 passengers going aboard the Cunard Line's Queen Elizabeth 2 at Haifa Port. When the plane took off for England the second time it took back to London 69 passengers who had arrived on the QE 2.

The London-Tel Aviv flight lasted two hours 30 minutes. The plane flew at twice the speed of

sound over the Mediterranean and the Adriatic, but was subsonic over Europe, Capt. John Massie told The Jerusalem Post.

Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir came down to Ben-Gurion Airport to watch the Concorde land.

Francis the Duck could not fly to London because it did not have health clearance to enter Britain. Neither did the plane have facilities to carry it. British Airways officials said.

But the duck's owners, the John and Julie Dixon team of magicians, insisted on taking Francis with them. Cunard, which chartered the Concorde, had promised the duck

could fly with them, the magicians' assistant Diane Stopforth said.

Two phone calls to London eventually established that a veterinarian's certificate would be awaiting the plane and British Airways promised to send the duck today in a specially-heated compartment. When the magicians hesitated to part from Francis, airline officials told them that unless they boarded the plane immediately, the Concorde would leave without them.

Francis was left behind in his blue-grey travelling box and an official went out to get it some food. "Francis looks depressed," one of them said.



EUROPA CIGARETTES, LOW IN NICOTINE

WARNING: The Ministry of Health has determined that smoking is harmful to health.

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The weather at major Swissair destinations

28.3.1984	MIN	MAX	C F C F
AMSTERDAM	4 39	9 48	Cloudy
BRUSSELS	3 38	10 50	Rain
BURNO AIRFS	12 54	23 73	Clear
CHICAGO	-1 30	7 45	Snow
COPENHAGEN	8 41	10 50	Cloudy
FRANKFURT	2 38	9 43	Rain
GENEVA	8 49	13 55	Cloudy
HELSINKI	0 32	13 55	Cloudy
HONG KONG	0 32	13 55	Cloudy
JOHANNESBURG	13 59	18 68	Cloudy
LISBON	13 59	18 68	Rain
LONDON	8 41	10 50	Cloudy
MADRID	9 48	12 54	Clear
MONTREAL	-4 25	5 41	Cloudy
NEW YORK	1 34	9 43	Rain
PARIS	8 49	13 55	Rain
RIO DE JANEIRO	17 63	23 73	Clear
SAO PAULO	21 70	28 82	Clear
STOCKHOLM	0 32	13 55	Cloudy
TOKYO	2 38	17 63	Cloudy
TORONTO	0 32	7 45	Cloudy
VIENNA	5 41	10 50	Cloudy
ZURICH	2 38	3 37	Clear

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THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear.
Outlook for Shabbat: Clear

Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
Humidity	Min-Max	Max
Jerusalem	27 7-23	23
Golan	25 12-22	23
Nahariya	—	—
Safed	40 11-18	20
Haifa Port	88 15-19	20
Tiberias	46 11-27	28
Nazareth	34 13-23	26
Afula	56 10-26	28
Shomron	32 11-25	26
Tel Aviv	58 11-23	24
B-G Airport	52 11-25	26
Jericho	22 12-20	30
Gaza	73 16-30	22
Beerseba	48 12-24	26
Eilat	24 15-29	30

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Histadrut Secretary-General
Yeroham Meshel presented 10 persons with merit awards last night in Haifa for their activities on behalf of the labour federation. The recipients were former Jewish Agency chairman Yosef Almog, Shalom Bahat, Meir Weinstein, Rivka Linkovskiy, Eliezer Molk, Shmuel Margolin, Moshe Menahem, Shlomo Amali, Ben-Zion Shabat and Haya Tishbi.

Dr. Ze'ev Boneh, director-general of the Armaments Development Authority (Rafael) will be the guest speaker at the Haifa Engineers Club luncheon, at 1 p.m. today. Table reservations by phone, 04-674583.

ARRIVALS

Mr. & Mrs. Manuel Sielecky, Dr. Cesar Moshon, Argentina; Mr. Roger Levi, Belgium; Mrs. Claire Babin, Mr. Edward Bronfman, Mr. Harold Buchwald, Dr. & Mrs. Sidney Carkin, Prof. Joel Elkes, Chief Justice & Mrs. Samuel Freedman, Dr. & Mrs. Gerald Hubert, Dr. & Mrs. Ralph Hubert, Mrs. Brett Lauenfeld, Mr. F. S. Serman, Mr. & Mrs. Morris Wolk, Canada; Dr. & Mrs. Enrique Alcaiz, Chile; Mrs. Stella Rozan, France; Mr. & Mrs. Clem Eses, Israel; Mrs. Kathleen Casali, Italy; Mr. Aaron Benar, Mr. & Mrs. Rudy Frankel, Mr. & Mrs. Isaac Kaye, South Africa; Mr. & Mrs. Albert Rone, Switzerland; Dr. & Mrs. Basil Bard, Mr. Ellis Berk, Mr. & Mrs. David Franklin, Sir Sigmund and Lady Sternberg, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Worms, United Kingdom; Prof. Howard Adelson, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Bloom, Mr. Lyman Bloomingdale, Judge & Mrs. Irving Brand, Prof. & Mrs. Herbert C. Brown, Mr. & Mrs. Maurice Cohen, Mr. & Mrs. Willard Colodny, Mrs. Lanny Darwin, Mr. John Davidoff, Mr. & Mrs. Paul Densen, Mr. Murray Dubof, Mrs. Barbara Elken, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Feinberg, Mr. Dick Feit, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Friedler, Mr. & Mrs. Julius Goldman, Mr. & Mrs. Leo Guzik, Mr. & Mrs. Max Haber, Prof. & Mrs. William Haber, Mr. & Mrs. Martin Hecht, Mrs. Rochelle Indelman, Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Jaffee, Dr. & Mrs. Lisa Kampelman, Mrs. George Kramer, Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Krueger, Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Landy, Mrs. Frieda Lewis, Mrs. Esther Linn, Mr. & Mrs. Arnold Lipson, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Melzer, Mr. Henry Metzger, Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Musher, Mrs. Ruth Popkin, Mr. & Mrs. Albert Rachofsky, Mr. & Mrs. Martin Rind, Mrs. Leona Rosenberg, Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Rothberg, Mr. & Mrs. Keith Sachs, Mr. & Mrs. Vidal Sassoon, Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Silber, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Smith, Mrs. Bunee Taft, Mrs. Bernice Tannenbaum, Mrs. Ruth Warshawer, Mr. & Mrs. Willard Westberg, United States; Mr. & Mrs. Basilio Bernat, Uruguay; Eliezer Rokoff, Venezuela — all for the 46th annual meeting of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem Board of Governors.

Clive Gaventa dies, 56

Jerusalem Post Correspondent
LONDON. — Clive Gaventa, chairman of British Herut for the past two years, died here on Wednesday at 56 from a heart attack while undergoing surgery. Gaventa, active in Herut for many years, took a leading part in many other organizations, including the British Friends of Magen David Adom and the British Friends of the Israeli War Disabled. He was at one time chairman of both these organizations.

New chairman for Etmunah

Jerusalem Post Staff
TEL AVIV. — Former National Religious Party Knesset member Sarah Stern-Katan yesterday was elected chairwoman of Etmunah, the national religious women's movement. She succeeds Tova Sanhedrai-Goldreich, who served as movement secretary since its founding 50 years ago.

HOME AND WORLD NEWS

Phalangists pull out from coastal road

By MENAHEM HOROWITZ
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Phalange soldiers in Southern Lebanon have completed their evacuation of the coastal highway, as agreed with the Druse opposition forces.

According to the agreement, the thousands of Christian refugees who fled their homes in the Aklim al-Harub area over the last several months are also to be allowed to return home. The villagers, from the region between Damur and Sidon, left under Druse shelling, which is also to cease, according to the agreement.

Yesterday afternoon the Phalange troops with all their heavy

weapons left Damour and were brought to Jounieh, north of Beirut. The number of refugees returning to their homes over the last several days from Israeli-controlled Southern Lebanon is estimated at about 5,000.

Large numbers of IDF soldiers, together with members of the South Lebanese Army, are still stationed in and around the Shi'ite village of Jibshit, four kilometres west of Nabatiya, to prevent a renewal of disturbances there.

On Wednesday, three residents were killed there and many others were wounded when the Lebanese troops opened fire on demonstrators.

Jordan, PLO raise funds for West Bank

AMMAN (Reuters). — Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organization have launched a fund-raising campaign to assist Palestinians living in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, officials said yesterday. The money is being raised by a joint committee set up by Arab

states six years ago with an annual budget of \$150 million to finance Palestinian projects in the two areas.

Committee officials say only Saudi Arabia and Kuwait have fulfilled their pledges and the committee badly lacks funds.

Latvian refusednik held for 'hooliganism'

MOSCOW (AP). — A Latvian Jew who was one of four protesting this month against the authorities' refusal to let them emigrate has been arrested in Riga on charges of hooliganism, a friend said yesterday.

Unshein said in a telephone call from Riga. Zunshein said she was also present at the demonstration, and denied the charge.

Her husband Zakhar, a 33-year-old physicist who lost his job last summer, was arrested after the protest and Mrs. Zunshein said he is being held in Riga on charges of anti-Soviet agitation. Mrs. Zunshein said she has not seen her husband since he was detained, and that no date has been set for a trial.

Chief Rabbi Eliahu says Tiberias hotel 'kosher'

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Chief Rabbi Mordechai Eliahu has refuted allegations that the Tiberias hotel, Ganei Hamat Tiberia, is doing construction work in defiance of religious law. Zealot circles have demonstrated, protesting that the hotel's extension is being built on an ancient Jewish

ceremony. The Sephardi chief rabbi, in a letter to Shlomo Grupman, the director of Africa-Israel Investments, which owns the hotel, certifies that the work is being carried out according to a previous rabbinical authorization, and under the supervision of Rabbi Yoel Ben-Nun.

Small-claims court finds mostly for consumers

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — The small-claims court in Haifa found in favour of the consumer in 95 per cent of the cases, and has become "an important instrument for consumers," the Haifa Labour Council said on Wednesday.

A study of some 150 cases made for the Consumer Protection Authority of the council indicated that in 35 per cent of the cases the court made a ruling after a single hearing, in 22 per cent it brought about a compromise, and 6 per cent of the cases were referred to a higher court.

Most of the cases studied were claims against suppliers for failing to meet delivery dates; poor quality

of work or goods, damage to cars and non-payment of rent.

Though the small-claims court does not require the appearance of legal counsel, 32 of the respondents in the 150 cases reviewed were represented by lawyers.

False bomb alert

TEL AVIV. — A British charter airplane which flew out of Eilat yesterday made an emergency landing in Cyprus after a drunken passenger said he was in possession of a bomb.

Cypriot authorities searched Monarch's Boeing 757 and found nothing, an Israeli Airports Authority source said. No further details were available.

ISRAEL SILENCE

(Continued from Page One)

New York Times columnist Anthony Lewis yesterday backed up his own opposition to the Moynihan bill by referring to the privately expressed Israeli and American Jewish reservations. "Many leaders of the American Jewish community really see the Jerusalem question... as an unnecessary distraction," Lewis wrote. "Some of them privately urged Senator Moynihan not to press his bill calling for relocation of the embassy. But he has persisted, explaining that the legislation is needed as a sign of American support for Israel."

Aipac officials denied they are willing to back away from the bill. But they conceded some friction with Moynihan over tactics, blaming the senator. "He's been unwilling to cooperate with his colleagues in a truly bipartisan manner," one source said.

In contrast, they cited the impressive show of cooperation in the House, where Democrat Tom Lantos of California and

Republican Ben Gilman of New York have introduced parallel legislation and have attracted over 200 co-sponsors from both parties.

Reagan meanwhile told The New York Times that he is determined to push ahead for Arab-Israeli peace despite the setbacks in Lebanon.

"We hope that we can be helpful, that we can bring about... a meeting of the moderate Arab states and Israel and the bringing about of peace just as Egypt and Israel brought about peace," he said.

He denied he had been misinformed about Lebanon by his advisers in advance of his decision to send marines there.

"No," he said. "We knew that what we were attempting to help with was a very complex, complicated problem. And what we and our allies joined together to do was based on the necessity for a withdrawal of the foreign forces that were in there... We did not succeed in what we thought could have gone forward."

He again blamed Syria for instigating the radical forces against the Lebanese government.

HERUT

(Continued from Page One)

members to draw up an agreed list and thus avoid a contest.

Meanwhile, the Shamir camp has decided that if a showdown cannot be avoided, it will occur in the very near future and be swift. After Begin resigned Herut mounted the search for an heir almost overnight, and it was over in one evening.

The assumption in Herut thus far has been that there would be no leadership contest if Labour had none. But another assumption has it that if Navon does not head the Labour list, Levy might try his hand in the hope of being the only candidate of oriental origin aiming at the premiership.

Levy supporters claim Sharon's candidacy forces them to make their own challenge lest some Levy supporters vote for Sharon, thus eroding Levy's power and adding to Sharon's. But this claim is generally regarded in the party as a pretext, because if Levy were to unite with Shamir against Sharon, he could make sure that Sharon did not profit by running.

Most speakers at the Herut secretariat meeting last night came out sharply against leadership battles in the party. Sharon and Levy who were both present kept silent.



A group calling itself "Citizens for Navon" yesterday collects signatures in downtown Jerusalem for a petition favouring former president Yitzhak Navon as the Alignment candidate for prime minister. (Scoop 80)

NAVON EXPECTED

(Continued from Page One)

Navon number-two man, offering him a deputy premiership and the post of minister with overall responsibility for domestic affairs. Navon's supporters met in his home last night for a final deliberation.

Navon also met central Labour figures outside his circle of supporters, including MK Mordechai Gur, who is mooted to become the party campaign manager. Gur, who has often declared his own readiness to run for the premiership, said yesterday that he will make his own decision on whether to put up his candidacy after Navon makes his decision public.

Meanwhile, meetings of Labour Party forums which were scheduled for yesterday, including the party Political Bureau's secretariat and the Labour Central Committee,

were called off to prevent possible open controversy prior to the announcement of Navon's decision.

If Navon announces that he agrees to second place or if he decides to stay out of politics altogether, next week's Central Committee session may officially nominate Peres the party's candidate for prime minister.

This is based on the assumption that Peres' perennial rival Yitzhak Rabin will also not mount a challenge. The feeling in the party is that Rabin and Peres have in effect formulated an agreement whereby Rabin would receive the defence portfolio and be second to Peres in the party hierarchy, though he may only be awarded third slot in the Knesset list in deference to Navon. Rabin is not believed to have a chance against Peres in the central committee.

BEIRUT

(Continued from Page One)

between Beirut's Moslem west and Christian east to supervise the shaky truce declared by Lebanese leaders during the "reconciliation conference" which ended in Lausanne on March 20.

A government source said the operations' room is manned by representatives from all warring factions, French observers and Lebanese police officers. It will work around the clock and report to the "higher security-political committee" about any developments along the "Green Line."

The "higher security-political committee," also agreed upon in Lausanne, held its first meeting under the chairmanship of Jemayel on Wednesday night. It went into

operation yesterday morning and state radio said it provided the agreement to end indiscriminate shelling.

The committee was expected to discuss last night security arrangements, to reopen Beirut International Airport and port, which have been closed since the outbreak of this round of violence in early February.

DEAN. — Prof. Michael Inbar, chairman of the Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, has been elected dean of the University's Faculty of Social Sciences. He succeeds Prof. Yosef Yehav.

In deep sorrow, we announce the passing of our beloved mother, grandmother

DORA FELDMAN

The funeral will take place today, Friday, March 30, 1984 at 1.00 p.m. at Kibbutz Gesher Haziv.

The Feldman Family
Kibbutz Gesher Haziv

Memorial service and unveiling of the tombstone of our beloved

LOTTE CHOCZNER ל"י SHLOMO CHOCZNER ל"י

on Sunday, April 1, 1984 at 3 p.m. at the Har Hamenuhot cemetery, Givat Shaul, Jerusalem.

We will meet at the car park at the cemetery entrance.
The Family

With deep sorrow, we extend heartfelt condolences to our dear HAVRA RACHEL DUDAVANI and her family, on the loss of her beloved husband

BARUCH DUDAVANI ל"י

הקום ינחם אתכם בתוך שאר אבלי ציון וירושלים

Etmunah World Religious Zionist Women's Organization
Etmunah National Religious Women's Organization — Jerusalem Branch

We, the St. Louis, Missouri Contingent of the Ampai group, express our deepest grief at the tragic demise of our honoured former Chairman,

YA'ACOV LEVINSON

and offer sincere condolences to his family.

Dr. and Mrs. Nathan Kimelman
Mr. and Mrs. Victor Packman
Dr. and Mrs. Melvin Schwartz
Dr. and Mrs. Herman Shyken
Mr. and Mrs. Eli Spielberg

2 die, 3 hurt in Galilee crash

By MENAHEM HOROWITZ
Jerusalem Post Reporter

KIRYAT SHMONA. — Two residents of this Upper Galilee development town were killed and three others injured in a road accident early yesterday morning on the road to Rosh Pina.

A car carrying the five was travelling north from Ein Gev after a late-night concert at the kibbutz. Six kilometres south of their home town, the driver apparently lost control, swerved to the left and collided head-on with a military truck.

For 1½ hours, a Magen David Adom ambulance crew from Kiryat Shmona and an Air Force

helicopter crew laboured unsuccessfully to save the lives of the two most seriously injured.

Romano Kamilo and David Shriki died before they could reach the Safad government hospital.

The Rosh Pina-Kiryat Shmona road is one of the most dangerous in Galilee. Since the IDF entered Lebanon in 1982, its volume of traffic has increased by a factor of six.

Tanks and other heavy vehicles have left their mark on the road surface, which is cracked and pocked with potholes. Recently the five kilometres south of Kiryat Shmona were repaved; the rest is waiting for more money.

Agent's home bombed after broadcast; police leak denied

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The police did not leak the name of the undercover agent whose house was bombed after his name was broadcast on Israel Television on Wednesday night, a source said yesterday.

The agent, Yitzhak Salzman, was once considered an active member of the Jerusalem underworld, known for his often violent aversion to the police. But after a spell in a police lock-up, he reportedly "changed sides" and helped police arrest a gang accused of trafficking in heroin in the capital.

Two months ago, Salzman "escaped" from a police lock-up. Police staged a widespread

manhunt for him, but this apparently was only for public consumption since it was the police themselves who arranged his getaway, a source said.

It was after this "escape" that the alleged heroin trafficking gang was arrested. There were apparently rumours circulating earlier this week in the Jerusalem underworld that Salzman was working for the police, before the broadcast of his name Wednesday night on the Mabot newsreel. Some 45 minutes later, a grenade was thrown at his house. No one was hurt.

Police had tried to stop publication of the fact that Salzman had been in their employ.

Smuggler informs on drug suspects

TEL AVIV (Itim). — Two drug suspects were remanded yesterday on the basis of information supplied by a smuggler who police say was caught with 118 grams of heroin on his body last weekend after he arrived from Holland.

A police representative told Tel Aviv Magistrates Court Judge Yoram Galin that Rafael Shukrun, 40, of Dimona, is cooperating with the investigation, though not in return for any promise of a lighter

sentence. He was remanded for 14 days last Friday, and police say he will be brought to trial.

Shukrun reportedly implicated Hassan Kahil, 32, of Jaffa, and Yitzhak Ohayon, 45, of Bat Yam, who he said bought quantities of the drug from him. Police said that several other customers are being sought.

Both Kahil and Ohayon denied the allegations and said they do not even know Shukrun.



A one-day-old ibex, one of six born this week in Jerusalem's Biblical Zoo, nibbles at a zookeeper's trouser leg. The ibex was born sickly and is under intensive care, receiving infusions, antibiotics and anti-diarrhoea medicines. (Leora Cheslin)

In deep sorrow we announce the passing of

SONIA HARNICK

widow of the late Dr. Moshe Harnick.

The funeral will take place at the cemetery in Or Akiva at 1.00 p.m. today, March 30.

Deeply mourned and sadly missed by

Her brother, Oscar Seltzer, and family
Her sister, Katya Klopfer, and family

A memorial service on the second anniversary of death of our beloved and unforgettable

MIRIAM

will take place on Sunday, April 1, 1984 at the New Cemetery, Ramat Hasharon, at 4 p.m.

Peter C.

We wish to express our heartfelt thanks to all the many friends and relatives of our beloved and sorely missed mother, grandmother and great-grandmother

JENNY FINK ל"י

for all their many expressions of condolence.

We regret that as a result of the large number of messages visits we are unable to acknowledge each one personally, therefore do so in this way.

Hochstein, Weissman and Fink family

GEOFFREY SEEFF

passed away on March 28, 1984 in Cape Town, after a long and bravely borne.

Sadly missed by family and friends in Israel

Herzog hits 'imbalance' of UK Mideast policy

By HYAM CORNEY

Jerusalem Post Correspondent
LONDON: President Chaim Herzog last night hit out at British policy towards the Middle East, accusing it of lacking perspective and understanding.

Addressing the annual dinner of the Anglo-Israel Association at the Savoy Hotel before a gathering of Jews and non-Jews, the president declared: "There are certain aspects of British policy and of its approach to Middle East problems about which Israel has its reservations. It seems to us that there is at times a tendency to ignore the basic facts of life in the Middle East and an unwillingness to break away from traditional approaches."

"Public opinion in the world has to a great degree been misled by an over-emphasis of the Arab-Israeli conflict in the context of all that is happening in the Middle East," Herzog said.

The Arab-Israeli conflict, he continued, "is not in my view the central problem in the Middle East as far as world peace is concerned. Those who point to it as such are willfully, or because of lack of understanding of the issues and their implications, misleading public and indeed world opinion and ignoring a situation fraught with danger for the world."

Hussein guides Elizabeth through Petra

PETRA, Jordan (Reuters). — Britain's Queen Elizabeth yesterday toured the ruins of Petra on the last day of her five-day visit to Jordan.

The queen spent more than an hour among the ruins of the city, which remained hidden for centuries until they were rediscovered by Swiss explorer John Burckhardt in 1812.

Accompanied by her husband Prince Philip, King Hussein of Jordan and his wife Queen Noor, the queen rested in a tent at one stage.

S. Africans invited to Mimouna at Ofakim

Jerusalem Post Reporter
OFAKIM. — All South Africans in Israel have been invited to the Mimouna festival on April 24 in the town of Ofakim, on the edge of this Negev town.

The Mimouna is a festival celebrated by North African Jews on the day after Pessah, this year on April 24.

Three justice bench to hear 'sabbath petition'

The High Court of Justice is to consider a petition to order the Minister of Interior and the Inspector of the police's central district to allow cause why a protest meeting against desecration of the sabbath in Petah Tikva may not be held outside the Heichal Cinema on Friday night.

The Public Committee for Observation of the Sabbath and the Petah Tikva residents Rabbi Eliezer Nakas and Michael Lipsky, said in their petition yesterday that the police have authorized their protest meetings only if they are held outside the municipality building.

They also claim that their

Herzog began his speech by paying tribute to the role played by Britain in general and its Jewish and Zionist leaders in particular in the establishment of Israel.

Even though, during Israel's struggle for independence, "much bitterness and hostility marked our relationship with the British Mandatory power, even the heat of the struggle did not erase the deepest innate respect for the principles and values of British civilization," said Herzog.

Herzog yesterday declined publicly to attack the queen for comments she has made in Jordan. Interviewed on BBC radio, Herzog said, "It is clear that the address for criticism is not the royal family, but those who make policy."

President and Mrs. Herzog will lunch with the queen at Windsor Castle on Monday, after her return from Jordan.

Earlier yesterday, Herzog lunched with senior Labour Party politicians, including party leader Neil Kinnock, who confirmed to the president that he would be visiting Israel either at the end of this year or early next year.

Afterwards, the president went to the House of Commons, where he was the guest of Speaker Bernard Weatherill.



President Herzog on Wednesday unveils a plaque at the house in London's Park Lane where Sir Moses Montefiore lived, at a ceremony marking the bicentennial of Montefiore's birth. (Ya'acov Sa'ar, GPO)

Tami to open cut-rate stores

By CHARLES HOFFMAN

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Tami Party is planning to open a country-wide chain of stores to sell low-cost food and other household goods to large families. The chain is to be financed in part with public funds. This was confirmed yesterday by the chairman of the Jerusalem branch of Tami, Amram Harush. He said that a non-profit association to run the chain is being set up by the party leaders.

The Jerusalem branch of Agudat Yisrael has for several years run stores selling low-cost goods to the needy, partly supported by

government grants.

Harush said that Tami would soon open stores in four Jerusalem neighborhoods — Gilo, Katamonim, Ir Ganim and Baka — to sell products for Pessah at low prices to families with three or more children. "A family will be able to save \$500 to \$600 on two packages of matzo, two bottles of wine and two bottles of cooking oil by buying at our outlets," Harush said.

The Jerusalem operation, he said, would continue on a modest scale until the national chain opens, and would be financed by donations, not government money.

Sound-wave instrument shatters kidney stones

Jerusalem Post Reporter

A new device that breaks up kidney stones with sound waves thus eliminating the need for surgery, went into use this week at the Meir Hospital in Kfar Saba. A similar device will be in operation at Beilinson Hospital in Petah Tikva next month.

Dr. Michael Aharonheim, the urologist who is operating the device at Meir Hospital, said using sound waves to break up kidney stones allows for shorter hospital

stays than does renal surgery.

The instrument has been tested in the U.S. with 93 per cent success. In Israel, some 15 per cent of the population suffer at some time in their lives from kidney stones. It is generally held by the medical profession that the principal reason for this high incidence is that Israelis do not drink enough. Health programmes in the schools during recent years have been aimed at teaching children the importance of a large daily intake of water and other liquids.

Israel Life conference in Jerusalem today

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Some 100 staff members and laymen of the American Jewish Congress were due in Jerusalem early this morning for the organization's biennial convention, whose theme is "Israeli Life in the 21st Century."

The group, due to arrive at 1 p.m. yesterday, were held up by bad weather at New York's Kennedy Airport. Participants earlier attended a pre-convention in Baltimore on "American Jewish Life in the 21st Century." The convention begins today in Jerusalem with briefings by Foreign Ministry

officials, including director-general David Kimche.

Tomorrow night participants will be guests at the home of U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis. Cabinet ministers, including Science Minister Yuval Ne'eman, Defence Minister Moshe Arens, and Interior Minister Yosef Burg, will address the visitors who will also meet with Labour Party Chairman Shimon Peres and Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek.

The conference's last session on Wednesday will be addressed by former defence minister Ezer Weizman.

Irate turkey-breeders block road

By YITZHAK OKED

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Traffic piled up on the Gedera-Mashmya Shalom road yesterday until police cleared away barriers of burning tires put there by irate turkey-growers from Moshav Hatzav.

The protesters said that turkey-growers throughout the country are being ruined because of the glut of frozen turkeys in cold storage and the large number of their birds which are awaiting slaughter.

The growers are critical of Agriculture Minister Pessah Grupper for allegedly not doing enough

to come to their aid. They reportedly want him to guarantee a minimum price and to fix production quotas.

Representatives of the turkey-growers emergency committee told reporters yesterday they will start blocking the country's main traffic arteries on Wednesday if Grupper does not take action by Monday.

Meanwhile, it was stated at a meeting of citrus farmers affiliated to the Histadrut's Agricultural Centre in Tel Aviv yesterday that dozens of veteran citrus farmers are taking jobs in Spain, the Philippines and South America because they cannot make a living here.

Payless high school teachers threaten to strike

By LEA LEVAVI

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The Secondary School Teachers Association has threatened a strike of all teachers employed by local authorities (except for Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa) if delays in payment of teachers' salaries are not rectified by the end of the Pessah vacation, leaders of the association warned the Union of Local Authorities chairman Pinhas Elon yesterday.

During the meeting, held at the teachers' request, Elon promised to

end the problems with teachers' pay, particularly in the dozen or so local authorities around the country where teachers have not been paid on time since the beginning of the school year.

High school teachers in various localities struck earlier this year when the local authorities failed to pay their salaries.

Elon also promised to do everything he can to see that local authorities pay their teachers at the beginning of the month and not between the fifth and the eighth of the month, as is now the case.

TALMUD. — Bar-Ilan University will hold a conference on talmudic research on Sunday, to mark the 500th anniversary of the first printing of the Talmud in Italy.

NURSES. — Bar-Ilan University this week awarded diplomas to 49 Tel Aviv area nurses who completed a three-year course of public health services studies.

On 8th 'Land Day' today

Leaders call for orderly rallies

By YOEL DAR

NAZARETH. — The Arab population inside the Green Line will today mark Land Day for the eighth time. On the first Land Day in March, 1976, six Arabs were killed during clashes with the security forces over the government's decision to expropriate thousands of dunams of land in Galilee.

The national committee of chairmen of Arab local councils and the National Committee for the Protection of Arab Land are to hold three regional rallies today: in Arara in Lower Galilee, in Taiba in the Triangle, and Rahat in the Negev.

The organizers have warned demonstrators, particularly young people, not to create disturbances and to keep order. They also appealed to the police not to patrol in Arab villages today in order "to avoid provocations."

Nevertheless, two incidents were reported in Galilee yesterday.

Unidentified persons piled up stones on the road leading to the Hararit lookout settlement. In the second incident, a Palestine Liberation Organization flag was flown atop an electric pylon at the entrance to Sakhnin in Western Galilee. Police cleared the road to Hararit and took the flag down. No arrests have been made.

Earlier this week, Galilee Sub-District Police Chief Nitzav-Mishne Meir Sade told Arab dignitaries that police would not stand by if PLO flags are raised and public order disturbed. Arab activists have claimed that several Rakah activists from the Nazareth area were detained for questioning by police during the week.

The Progressive Movement, whose leaders broke away from the Rakah-led Democratic Front, will hold a separate rally in Nazareth this afternoon. El-Nahda, a small organization, has called for a general strike in the Arab villages.

The weekly *Falastin El Thoura*, a PLO organ in Cyprus, has praised Land Day and its organizers.

The head of the Arab division in the Labour Party, Ra'anan Cohen, has proposed that the Arab population turn Land Day into a national event aimed at fostering relations between Jews and Arabs.

The National Committee for the Protection of Arab Land urged the government "to recognize Land Day as a national holiday of the Palestinian Arabs in Israel."

For the first time, Mena, a Jewish organization in Upper Nazareth which objects to Arabs living there, intends holding a counter-demonstration in Dado Square today to protest against "the takeover of Upper Nazareth by Arab residents." It is unclear whether they will carry out their original plan to march through Nazareth's main street and burn a PLO flag.

A large force of police and Border Police will be on alert today to keep order.

Experts point up loyalty of Galilee Arabs

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — Two researchers yesterday challenged the popular conception, on which they said government policies are based, that Galilee Arabs are a "homogenous hostile bloc" that must be contained.

They warned that such an attitude, feeding on itself, would merely aggravate a situation that is still well in hand.

Dr. Sammy Smooha, chairman of Haifa University's sociology department, and Prof. Avraham Wachman, dean of the Technion's Architecture Faculty, cited studies which showed that Galilee Arabs are more loyal to Israel than Israeli Arabs as a whole, and that there is no danger of Galilee being separated from Israel.

They spoke at a symposium on Jews and Arabs in Galilee held at Haifa University under the auspices of the Institute for Education for Co-Existence between Jews and Arabs, to mark Land Day, which falls today.

Smooha noted that Galilee Jews "hold positions more inimical to peaceful coexistence than the general Jewish population. Only 50 per cent of them wholeheartedly support full rights for the Arab minority, compared to 56 per cent of the general population and 60 per cent of Tel Aviv residents."

Among Jews in Galilee, 72 per cent support restrictions on Arabs to prevent their becoming a majority, and 57 per cent want the government to encourage Arabs to leave the country. As many as 78 per cent think that control over Arabs should be tightened, while 82 per cent believe that most Israeli Arabs cannot be

trusted, compared to 57 per cent who hold this opinion countrywide.

On the other hand 67 per cent of Galilee Moslems, Christian, Druze and Beduin see Israeli Arabs as having reconciled themselves to the existence of Israel, while 59 per cent accept that Galilee and the Triangle will remain part of Israel even if a Palestinian state is established in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Some 31 per cent of those questioned opted for self-administration for these areas.

Only 9 per cent supported "autonomous" legal status for Israeli Arabs, and no more than 13 per cent wanted a hypothetical Palestinian state to include Galilee and the Triangle.

While the study found that some Israeli Arabs do not accept minority status in Israel, "the majority consider themselves an integral part of Israel and seek solutions to their problems in it," Smooha said.

Wachman, who headed a team which prepared a long development plan for Galilee on behalf of the Jewish Agency's Settlement Department, said he has concluded "there can be no future for Galilee without a rational policy for Israeli Arabs."

"The trouble continues to be that government keeps evading the problem instead of dealing with it seriously," he said, adding that Galilee with its yet unsettled areas presents "the opportunity for planning co-existence." But it is not being exploited, he said, "because policy planners" still see Israeli Arabs as hostile, and bound to remain so, whereas we should be aiming to reduce hostility until it will eventually be eliminated through comprehensive planning for both Arabs

and Jews."

He dismissed as "stupid and meaningless" the slogans of "Judaizing Galilee" and "demographic balance." "If we accept Galilee Arabs as Israelis, there is no need for 'balance' and if we don't, we shall need other means," he said.

He proposed a massive Jewish settlement effort in empty eastern Galilee, including Golan, but none in the Arab-populated western and central sectors. This would give co-existence a chance, by including the Arabs in all development plans and placing them in decision-making government positions where they would be active partners in the process.

Government statistician Prof. Moshe Sikron said the 1983 census showed Galilee with a population of 660,000, about half of them Arabs. The Arab population is growing more rapidly, is younger, more of them than before must travel outside Galilee to work and they are less educated, though their educational standards are markedly rising.

Galilee Arabs have been subject to discrimination, not receiving the development funds directed to Jews. Though most expropriated land is rocky, "the plots are fit for building, as the Jewish lookout settlements have proved, and for quarrying."

Today most Arab villages still lack planning schemes to enable development, and most workers have to travel to "do unskilled work" in the Jewish sector. The Arab farming population has sharply declined to 7.7 per cent, as against 17 per cent in Jewish Galilee.

Basic foods rise by 14%

Jerusalem Post Staff

The prices of basic commodities went up by an average of 14 per cent at midnight, with the price of bread rising by an average of 12.5 per cent.

A sampling of the new prices (in shekels):

	New price	Old price
Standard bread (750 gr)	21	19
Flour 1500 gr	45	44
Cooking Oil (1 litre plastic bottle)	206	180
Milk (1 litre)	59	52
Cottage cheese	66	58
Butter	48	42
White cheese (9%)	70	61
Eggs	23	20
Frozen meat	650-950	570-840
Frozen chicken	380-385	325-340
Eggs	13.14-14.30	11.50-12.50

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Police to ignore some illegal parking

TEL AVIV (Itim). — This city's district police will not take any steps against illegally parked cars unless they constitute a traffic obstruction or endanger road users, District Commander Nitzav Avraham Turgeman has decided.

The police are opposed to parking on the pavement, but will take no action against such vehicles unless they are an interference.

Kibbutz Retamim joins settlements of Negev

BEERSHEBA (Itim). — Kibbutz Retamim yesterday was formally established, when its 60 members moved from the temporary structures in which they had been living for the past two years and settled into their permanent homes.

Yesterday's moving-in ceremony was attended by representatives of the United Kibbutz Movement, the Jewish Agency.

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Athens police hunt envoy's killer

ATHENS (AP)—Police set a dragnet around the Greek capital Wednesday night in a hunt for the killer of a British diplomat who was gunned down on Wednesday in a fashionable district of downtown Athens on his way home from work.

Ken Whitty, 44, died instantly of head wounds after a solitary gunman pumped at least five shots with a 0.9 caliber pistol through the open window of his car.

The gunman got away on foot after frightening off pursuers by firing into the air, eyewitnesses said.

His grey windbreaker was found tossed on the sidewalk a few streets away.

Whitty was assistant cultural representative at the British Coun-

cil. He was posted to Athens in March, 1983.

A previously unknown group calling itself "the Revolutionary Organization of Socialist Muslims" yesterday in Beirut claimed responsibility for shooting the British diplomat.

The group said it killed Whitty in response to what it called British attempts to resume its former colonial role in the world by spreading colonialist culture under a new guise.

"We are hunting an Arab...It was a planned, professionally executed job," Stylianos Tzannetakis, police chief for the Athens Third Precinct said.

A spokesman for Evangelismos

Hospital said a Greek woman who sat during the shooting in the passenger seat beside Whitty was "clinically dead" after being shot in the neck.

The spokesman said Artemis Ecomomidou, who worked in the British Council library, had undergone emergency surgery lasting several hours. Two other Greek women employees of the British Council in the car were uninjured.

Greek government spokesman Simitri Maroudas said in a statement the "government deeply regrets and condemns this hateful crime" and pledged "every possible effort to arrest the perpetrators and to protect foreign diplomats."

Tornadoes kill 74 in U.S.

FAYETTEVILLE North Carolina (Reuters)—At least 74 people were killed and hundreds injured when tornadoes hit North and South Carolina Wednesday night, officials said yesterday.

Rescue crews and hundreds of National Guardsmen found at least 74 bodies before dawn. Authorities said many of those reported missing live in rural, heavily wooded areas which were to be searched at daybreak.

The area for 48 kilometres around Columbia, South Carolina, was reported blacked out.

Police reported scattered looting.

but no details were available.

The tornadoes, caused by severe spring thunderstorms, smashed into Anderson and Winnsboro, in South Carolina, and moved on to Newbury and Bennettsville.

In North Carolina tornadoes struck the towns of Maxton, Shannon, Red Springs, Parkton and Mount Olive.

Winnsboro, where five people died, was under curfew to keep people off the streets.

Seven people were killed in Bennettsville when a tornado hit an apartment house and a shopping centre.

Canada's chief justice Laskin dies

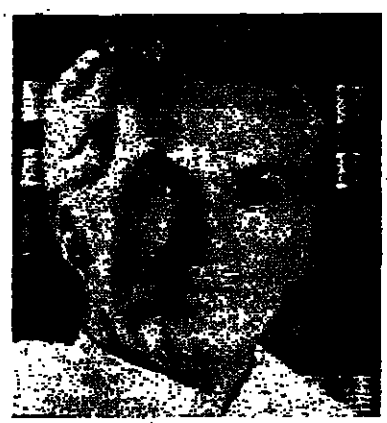
MONTREAL (JTA).—Canadian Supreme Court Chief Justice Bora Laskin died this week in Ottawa Civic Hospital following complications from pneumonia. He was 71 years old.

Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, who appointed Laskin to the post in 1973, said he was "extremely saddened at the loss of such a great Canadian, a brilliant legal mind who presided over the Supreme Court during an important period in the search for the Canadian identity."

Laskin was born in Thunder Bay, Ontario. The son of Jewish immigrants from Russia, his parents came to Winnipeg in 1904, where his father worked in a scrap yard for 50 cents a day. Laskin received his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1933 from the University of Toronto; and a Master of Law degree from Harvard University in 1937. He then turned to an academic career, joining the University of Toronto in 1940.

In 1946 Laskin was appointed to the Ontario Court of Appeal, and in 1970 to the Supreme Court. Less than four years later he became Canada's first Jewish chief justice.

Laskin's written opinions as chief justice were considered among the finest in the field of jurisprudence. He made many notable decisions on constitutional matters such as Indian rights and labour issues.



Bora Laskin. (Werner Braun)

Iraq claims direct hits on ships in Gulf, helicopters

NICOSIA.—Iraqi Navy vessels and jets scored "direct hits on four enemy naval targets" and downed two Iranian Helicopter gunships in the northeastern sector of the Gulf region yesterday, according to an Iraqi radio broadcast monitored here.

Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati summoned foreign ambassadors accredited to Tehran to complain about "the insane attacks by Iraqi planes against foreign ships in international waters," it was reported by the official Iranian News Agency, Irna.

The diplomats were asked to "reflect in their countries Iran's stance vis-a-vis these insane acts," Irna said.

Commenting on the three Iraqi air and sea attacks against Iranian and foreign-owned ships in the Gulf since Saturday, Velayati was quoted as saying: "Is there still anybody asking why Iran does not (want) to make peace with Iraq?"

Baghdad radio, broadcasting a statement by an Iraqi military spokesman said the four enemy naval targets were spotted at dawn sailing towards Bandar Khomeini on the Khor Mousa estuary, about 12 kilometres east of the Shatt al-Arab estuary.

On Tuesday, Iraq said a "formation" of its French Super-Etendard warplanes attacked and

destroyed two "major" naval targets southwest of Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal in the Gulf region.

Lloyd's of London said a Greek tanker and another "naval target" were hit by Iraqi missiles about 116 km. south of Kharg. It identified the ship as the 41,329-ton Filikon L, owned by Fellowship Inc. and registered in the Greek port of Piraeus.

In Geneva, Iran accused the international community of failing to take a strong stand against Iraq after a UN investigation confirmed use of chemical weapons in the Gulf war.

Iranian Ambassador Nasrollah Kazemi Kamyab told the 40-nation Geneva Disarmament Conference that world reaction had been generally passive to what he described as Iraqi violations of the 1925 Geneva protocol outlawing chemical warfare.

In Baghdad, a ranking Algerian official arrived yesterday for what a diplomatic source described as talks with Iraqi leaders on mediation in the 43-month-old war.

Mohammed Sharif Musaidia, a member of the Algerian ruling politbureau, was met at Baghdad airport by Iraqi Deputy Premier Taha Yassin Ramadan and Trade Minister Hassan Ali, an official announcement said. (AP, Reuters)

Syrians deporting local Unrwa director

VIENNA (Reuters).—Syria yesterday cabled the UN Relief and Works Agency in Vienna saying it is deporting Unrwa's director in Damascus, official Unrwa sources said yesterday.

The cable said Robert Gallagher, 53, a Canadian, had 48 hours to leave the country. Syrian authorities gave no explanation for the expulsion, Unrwa sources said.

An Unrwa official told Reuters that Unrwa Commissioner-General Olaf Rydbeck had immediately contacted UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar asking him to request an explanation from Damascus.

Meanwhile, Rydbeck said yesterday Unrwa required a budget of \$235 million in 1984 to keep up its relief work, but only had a prospective income of \$174m.

The agency faces a budget deficit of \$61m. In its efforts to provide relief and education for some 1.9 million Palestinian refugees in the Middle East, he said.

British police arrest strikers

LONDON (AP).—Police arrested 38 pickets early yesterday outside power stations and coal mines still operating despite an 18-day-old strike that has forced the shutdown of three-fourths of Britain's state-run collieries.

Some 8,000 policemen guarding the rebel mines have turned back squads of mobile "flying pickets" in recent days, breaking up large units of pickets who triggered clashes with police in the strike's first week.

The militants switched yesterday to picketing power stations in a bid to block coal supplies reaching them. The power plants are reported to have large coal stocks, and officials said the picketing was not likely to have any immediate impact on industry.

American arms used against Sudan rebels

WASHINGTON (AP).—U.S. officials denied on Wednesday that the U.S. was intentionally helping Sudan put down a rebellion of Christians and other non-Muslims in the southern part of the country. But they conceded that American arms are being used against the rebels.

Officials of the State and Defence Departments told the House of Representatives subcommittee on Africa that President Jaafar Numeiri's institution of Islamic law and other moves were the main cause of the rebellion.

Ethiopian and Libyan support, however, has made the rebellion possible, the officials said.

Zaire blames saboteurs for twin bombings

KINSHASA (Reuters).—Two simultaneous bombings in central Kinshasa this week were apparently the work of "determined saboteurs," Zairean official sources said yesterday.

The explosions on Tuesday at the central post office and at the modern, French-built Media City, which houses the national radio station, killed two people and wounded several others.

Responsibility for the bombings was claimed in Brussels on Wednesday night by the national Congolese movement Lumumba, one of several foreign-based groups opposed to the 19-year regime of President Mobutu Sese Seko.

Mubarak alarmed by Egypt's birthrate

CAIRO (Reuters).—President Hosni Mubarak said yesterday he foresees "terrible hunger, unemployment and terrorism" if Egypt's high birthrate is not checked.

Mubarak sounded the alarm at a government conference of population experts and sociologists called to consider emergency measures to lower a birthrate of 2.7 per cent a year, one of the highest in the world.

The population, now nearly 47

million and rising by a million every 10 months, will double in 22 years unless the increase is matched with socio-economic development, Mubarak said.

Mubarak cited the dangers of overcrowding in major cities. Cairo now has at least 12 million inhabitants.

Mubarak told the experts they must find answers, adding that at the start of the century the population was rising by only 1.5 per cent a year.

Book probes Windsor's links to Nazis

LONDON (Reuters).—Portugal's secret files on the late Duke of Windsor's links with Nazi Germany may have been destroyed under pressure from Britain, a writer charged in a book published yesterday.

The files were missing from secret police records in Portugal, where Britain's former King Edward VIII was said to have had talks with the Germans in 1940, the year after World War II began. Nicholas Shakespeare wrote in his new book *The Men Who Would Be King*.

"It is possible that the British put

pressure on their oldest ally to destroy or relinquish any information on the Duke of Windsor," added Shakespeare, who reported that he was allowed to search the Portuguese files.

The book said Adolf Hitler's Foreign Minister, Joachim von Ribbentrop, hatched a plot to kidnap the duke with the aim of restoring him to the throne to bring peace between Britain and Germany.

The king abdicated in 1936 to marry the American divorcee Wallis Simpson. He died in 1972. The Duchess of Windsor lives in Paris.

Senate vote eases Greece-U.S. tension

ATHENS (Reuters).—A U.S. Senate committee vote cutting aid to Turkey eased severe tension between Athens and Washington yesterday on the eve of extensive talks here between Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger and Greece's Socialist leaders.

Weinberger is only the second senior U.S. official to visit Greece since the election 30 months ago of the Socialists, who came to power with strongly anti-NATO rhetoric.

Relations between the Reagan administration and the government of Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu, never easy, took a turn

for the worse this year when Reagan proposed more aid on better terms for Turkey than for Greece.

But tension appears to have been eased by a Senate Foreign Relations Committee vote Wednesday night chopping \$215 million off Reagan's \$755m proposal for Ankara until Turkish Cypriots agree to put formerly Greek Cypriot areas of the city of Famagusta-Varoshia under UN auspices.

An official spokesman for Greece, which is due to get \$500m. under the Reagan proposals, hailed the Senate decision as a "clear political message to Turkey."

Up to 1,000 Sikh militants arrested

NEW DELHI (AP).—As many as 1,000 Sikh militants were arrested in a police crackdown yesterday as terrorists assassinated a moderate Sikh leader and a paramilitary soldier, and in Amritsar, four people were killed in a shootout, authorities said.

Opposition members stormed out of parliament yesterday to protest against the deterioration of law and order in northern India. The legislators earlier demanded the ruling lower house discuss their motion censuring the government for the slaying on a New Delhi street of Harbans Singh Manchanda, a moderate opposing Sikh terrorism.

The Akali Dal, the main political

party, said up to 1,000 of its activists were jailed in the Indian capital yesterday. Police said a large number of militants were rounded up but declined to disclose the exact number.

Rachpal Singh Bedi, former aide of a Sikh extremist leader, and three of his sons were killed in a shootout with six unidentified Sikhs last night in Amritsar, the Sikh sacred city 400 kilometres northwest of New Delhi, police said.

The assassins reportedly fled on foot into the nearby Golden Temple, the holiest Sikh shrine. The temple, according to the government, is being used as an arsenal and a sanctuary for fugitives.

JAIL TERMS.—Twelve Moroccan Communists were among 48 people sentenced to jail for 10 months to five years by courts in north Morocco over riots in the area last January, the Casablanca daily *al-Bayane* said yesterday.

ARAB LEAGUE.—Chedli Klibi of Tunisia was appointed for another five-year term as secretary-general of the Arab League at a meeting yesterday of the league's council, the Tunisian news agency TAP reported.

Sports

SOCCER PREVIEW

Hot prospects for leaders

By PAUL KOHN
Post Sports Reporter

TEL AVIV.—With just one point separating the top three clubs in the National League the final phase in the league championship is hotting up.

Betar Jerusalem, who had at one stage looked to have the championship all tied up, are now just one minuscule point clear of Hapoel Tel Aviv and Maccabi Haifa. The insecurity of Betar's top place is borne out by the fact that they haven't won a league game for two months. If they want to stay where they are they had better return to winning ways tomorrow when Hapoel Beersheba — now perilously close to the relegation zone — visit the capital. Hapoel Tel Aviv cut the Beershebas down to size with a 4-1 win in the Negev capital last Saturday, and with Beersheba having conceded 31 goals this season, Uri Malmilian, and his cohorts must be optimistic of grabbing a few goals to yield some solid YMCA cheers.

The match of the day is scheduled for the Bloomfield Stadium where

Hapoel Tel Aviv entertain Maccabi Netanya. Both sides won well last weekend. But this has been an erratic season for both clubs and much will depend tomorrow on which combination finds its touch. Will the shooting boots be on Moshe Sinai, Shabtay Levy, Gil Landau and Rifat Turk or will the master performance of Oded Machnes, Benny Lamm, David Lavie and Moshe Gariani which graced local fields last season be recalled? A real humdinger, prospect, either way.

Maccabi Haifa, the other championship accounts, play in Yavne and with Zehi Arad, Baruch Maman and Moshe Selektor forcing the pace must be favourites to win. Yavne though, a sticky team to beat on their own ground.

Other matches: Macc. Jaffa v Macc. Tel Aviv, Hapoel Ramat Gan v Hapoel Haifa, Macc. Petah Tikva v Be'er TA.

In important warm-up matches for the European championships finals later this year, the favourites West Germany and France both had unconvincing wins. The Germans needed a late winner to defeat a new-look Soviet Union side 2-1 in Hanover, while France laboured in beating Austria 1-0 in Bordeaux.

Rumanians may send Maccabiah entry

By JACK LEON
Post Sports Reporter

RAMAT GAN.—There is a good chance that Rumania will send a contingent to next year's 12th Maccabiah Games, marking the first appearance of any Eastern European sportsman since World War Two at the quadrennial event.

The optimism that such a major breakthrough would materialize followed a meeting in Jerusalem earlier this week between Maccabi World Union chairman Israel Peled

and Nicolas Gavrilescu, the Rumanian Minister of Tourism and Sport. "The Minister reacted favourably to our request for Rumania to be represented at the next Maccabiah, and promised to make every effort to bring this about," MWU spokeswoman Iris Porat said yesterday.

Details of the 12th Maccabiah — scheduled for July 1985 — will be finalized at a two-day session of the International Maccabiah Games Committee, starting on Sunday at Kfar Haim, Maccabi's headquarters. Many of the 100 delegates from 30 countries who will attend the gathering, are taking part in the current playing meeting of the MWU Executive at the same venue.

Keen competition for remaining places in Ashkelon Grand Prix

Post Sports Staff

The keenness to gain a place in next week's Israel Tennis Association \$25,000 ATP Gail Cup tournament in Ashkelon is reflected in the fact that no fewer than 64 players will fight it out for just four places in the main 32-strong draw. All the 30 odd overseas hopefuls participating in the qualifying event which begins tomorrow morning and continues through Sunday are paying their own way.

The tournament proper begins on Monday and continues all week winding up in the final on Saturday. Shlomo Glickstein, Israel's top player, is defending his title.

Results of the Jerusalem Open by summary of Yossi Zivni who was killed in the Lebanon War: Men's singles — Ronnie Green defeated

Ueli Adles 6-1, 7-6 in the final; Hani Eliezer defeated Batsheva Mandel to take the women's title with Ronni Geller capturing the men's over 40 crown defeating Naima Lavi and Roni Yarni Karavich taking the doubles with Roni Yarni Karavich over Green and Roni Zohar 6-4, 7-6.

In Boca Raton, Florida, top seed Jimmy Connors waltzed past the 16-year-old prodigy Aaron Krickstein, 6-0, 6-0 to advance to quarterfinals of the \$265,000 Paine Webber Classic.

In other second round action, third-seeded Jimmy Arias survived the loss of a first-set deuceball to take a 6-7, 6-3, 6-4 win from the former American Airlines Cupholder, Nick Pietrangeli. In the final of the \$10,000 U.S. Open, 6-3 and Sammy Griembaum (U.S.) upset the Israeli Tel Avivite (U.S.) 6-2, 7-5, 7-6. Earlier this week Israel's No. 2 player Shmuel Perlman made a gallant effort but was overpowered by 7-5 (10-8), 2-6, 7-4 (7-6) by Chile's David Cortis. The Chilean is a former World War Men's singles — Ronnie Green defeated

Important boost for Hapoel Tel Aviv

Hapoel Tel Aviv gave themselves an important morale boost for Monday night's State Cup basketball final against favourites Hapoel Ramat Gan when they beat off the challenge of Hapoel Haifa 88-80 to win their playoff series by two matches to win and so finish third in the overall league standings. Both clubs had already qualified for European competition next season.

Miki Lurie led the scoring for the winners with 25 points. Flash Haim scoring 22, and Haim's Haim Zlotnik was a top overall in the point count, scoring 33.

In the NBA, Moses Malone is playing his best basketball of the

season, and it couldn't come at a better time for the Philadelphia 76ers. "He gave us fight with shooting and rebounds," said Philadelphia coach Billy Cunningham after the 76ers' centre scored 22 points, grabbed 10 rebounds, dished out five assists and blocked six shots to key a 109-101 victory Wednesday night over Washington Bullets.

In other NBA action, it was Boston 114, Los Angeles 107; Detroit 108, Chicago 101; Indiana New York 93; Milwaukee 130, Cleveland San Diego 122; Los Angeles 115 and Seattle 111, Kansas City 94.

Fateful decision

LONDON (Reuters).—The English Rugby Football Union today makes one of the most important decisions in their history when they vote on whether to send a team to South Africa in May.

The decision, which will almost certainly be in favour of the tour going ahead, is likely to have far-reaching repercussions with the Los Angeles Olympics later this year and the 1986 Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh possible targets of those opposed to the tour.

The proposed tour has already come under fire from African states. The UN Committee on Apartheid has also asked the British government to prevent the tour going ahead.

The English Union have, however, shown no sign of being swayed by outside opinion, including that of British Sports Minister.

Ice Hockey

VANCOUVER (AP).—Jere Gillis scored two goals to help the Vancouver Canucks defeat the Winnipeg Jets 5-1 in a crucial game to decide playoff positions in the National Hockey League's Smythe division. The victory moved the Canucks three points ahead of the Jets in the race to avoid the runaway Edmonton Oilers in the best-of-five opening round of the playoffs.

Other results: Washington 6, New Jersey 2; Philadelphia 5, Pittsburgh 3.

Grand National hopes

LIVERPOOL (Reuters).—Irish trainers are all set to land their first Grand National since 1975 as fine preparations are made for Saturday's race at Aintree here. Millions of people are expected to be glued to their television screens for the pulsating minutes for tomorrow's famous steeplechase.

For Ireland Grassington and Yvonne, the Irish-trained second and third last year's winners, Corbiere are joined by Elligore, one of the finest horses in training who won the 1975 Grand National when his owner and trainer Corbiere became the first woman to win a winner in a major race.

Heavy ante-post betting has listed Grassington and Elligore as top favourites, Corbiere as third best. The odds have tumbled since Grassington's last stable companion Sam Mervin won the first big flat race of the British season, the Lincoln Handicap, last Saturday.

Grassington has been compiled to score big debuts with Saving Mercy and stands to be bookmakers an estimated £100,000.

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Professor Jacob Talmon Memorial Foundation
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Applications are invited for the Talmon Memorial Fellowship to be awarded for the academic year 1984/5.

The Fellowship, in an amount of \$4,500 — \$6,000, will be awarded to a Ph.D. candidate or post-graduate whose work deals with subjects related to the scholarly work of the late Professor Talmon.

The award of the Fellowship implies the residence of the recipient at the Hebrew University during the academic year 1984/85.

The Fellowship will be awarded at the occasion of the Memorial Lecture, to be held in June 1984.

Applications, accompanied by a detailed outline of the proposed research project, together with a curriculum vitae and three recommendation letters, should be submitted to the Talmon Memorial Foundation, Office of the Dean, Faculty of Humanities, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, by May 1, 1984.

LAST SUNDAY evening, the king of Israel, paid a visit to the ramshackle, shabby structure that houses the Herut branch in Tel Aviv's Yemenite Quarter. The welcome was enthusiastic, bordering on the ecstatic. Ariel Sharon was clearly a king in exile who, shorn of his power and glory, must now find what solace he can in such crumbling hovels. But he made it clear to his cheering followers that he still has not given up hope of returning victorious to the great fortress itself — Metzudat Ze'ev.

He outlined a wondrously simple plan, which would not only decide who the new monarch would be, but also who would become his regents and viceroys. It is an absolutely fall-proof scheme. Even if he should be dejected the coveted crown itself, he would still be named one of the great overlords of the land by virtue of the very fact of having competed in the great bout. He cannot lose.

Sharon is the only one in the political arena so far to officially challenge a major party leader. But, as he hinted at the Yemenite Quarter, he is not necessarily out to topple Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. He would be happiest, perhaps, to emerge third best and regain the defence portfolio as a consolation prize.

According to the rules of Sharon's game, the contest should determine not only who the number one man would be. The competitor who emerges top of the heap will clearly be candidate for prime minister, the second for foreign minister and the third for defence minister. Sharon has already apparently divided the spoils and has appointed Shamir leader, agreed that Deputy Premier David Levy would be number two and foreign minister, while he would modestly make do with third place.

The assumption is that there would be no more than three candidates, which means that the present defence minister, Moshe Arens, would quietly agree to lose by default. Sharon did not explain what would happen if there were more than three challenges or if he were unlucky enough to beat Levy and come out in second place.

But what was clear at Herut headquarters in Metzudat Ze'ev from the beginning of the week was that Sharon is really not after Shamir's primacy. He merely wants to unsettle Arens. This is good news and bad news for Herut. Good in the sense that the Sharon challenge is not really a serious quest for the party leadership and that he can be pacified for the right price. But the bad news is that, at least as an opening bargaining gambit, Sharon has set a very high price that cannot be met. Shamir will not ditch Arens in



One-knight stands

Despite the talk of leadership challenges, it appears that neither of the major parties is anxious for an internal confrontation, writes SARAH HONIG.



Sharon's favour.

The transparency and lack of subtlety of Sharon's design briefly put amused smiles on worried Herut faces. But just how laughable and dismissible Sharon's dare may be depends almost entirely on how Levy will assess the situation. If Levy enters the fray, Sharon's bargaining power vis-à-vis Shamir will be considerably increased and become not in the least preposterous.

But Levy's intentions are shrouded in mystery and his statements are open to more than one plausible interpretation, very much like the few hints dropped by his equally ambitious counterpart in Labour, former premier Yitzhak Rabin. Both are carefully weighing their options and are ostensibly keeping them very open. Their cryptic public expressions echo each other to such an extent that they could easily be interchanged, with the switch hardly discernable. Levy's prime concern is "the good of the party. I will do nothing to hurt it." And according to Rabin, "the primary objective now is to do what is best for the party's interest."

The question is whether what is good for Levy is also good for Herut, and whether what is in Rabin's interest is in Labour's as well. Each of the two would-be challengers can quote polls indicating that he is his party's brighter hope. Each holds the key to immediate future events in his party. At the time of this writing, neither has removed the key from his pocket.

THE SITUATIONS in the Likud and Labour are virtual mirror-images of each other. In both parties there is much talk of a unified team, cooperation, and goodwill. But in both there are potential combatants who know they will soon be

engaged in battle, but have not quite decided against whom, and which is the most important fight. Will they resume their struggle against a foe or rival from within their camp, or turn their attention solely to a common outside adversary? The decision is not an easy one for David Levy, beaten once by Shamir and miffed by being denied the promised foreign affairs portfolio and being excluded from the cosy inner circle. Nor is the decision any easier for Rabin, nursing a much older, deeper-seated and far more bitter grudge against Labour Chairman Shimon Peres.

Time is a crucial element in the calculations of both men. Summer elections would appear to rule out the possibility of a showdown in either large party. There would not be enough time to build up a credible challenge, and if polling day is not far off, a challenge would be very harmful to either party. Both challengers would be laying themselves open to charges of sabotaging their party's electoral chances, and "with the party's best interests in mind," neither would want to be branded a traitor to the cause.

But both Rabin and Levy have very good reasons not to rock their respective boats, but instead make the best deals they can without forcing a contest for the leadership. Both could conceivably put up a very impressive campaign, with plenty of fireworks and excitement. But when the action has died down, both are likely to come out the losers yet again.

IN BOTH CASES the situation is identical: the two parties' central committees have not been re-elected in years, the balance of forces in them has not altered, and remains as it was when both Levy

and Rabin last tried and lost. Conditions still favour the incumbents. Early Knesset elections will leave no time for new internal elections in either major party.

Had the branch members in Herut elected a new central committee, Levy could have counted on improved prospects. But the present committee reflects the balance of forces which existed more than four years ago, when Menachem Begin still held a firm grip on the party helm. In the present committee make-up, there is little likelihood that Levy would do better than he did last year. This time, moreover, Shamir would start with a marked advantage — he is the serving prime minister.

Rabin is faced with an almost identical situation. The candidate for prime minister in Labour would be elected either by the delegates elected to the 1980 party convention or by the central committee put together by that convention. That was also the convention in which Peres roundly defeated Rabin and won 70 per cent of the votes. True, Peres has since lost another Knesset election, but he is still party leader, controls the party machine, and has finally succeeded in triggering early elections. His advantage in those two party forums is still formidable.

No real shift has occurred in any Labour institution to infuse Rabin supporters with the hope that they could do any better this time around. Moreover, the backing for Rabin in the Kibbutz Meuhad movement is reported to be no longer as solid as it once was.

GIVEN THIS situation, it would perhaps seem wiser for both would-be challengers to keep up the pressure as much as possible, but when it comes to the crunch, avoid an actual confrontation and take what

they can without the humiliation of another loss at a time which is inopportune in either party.

In Herut it is said that Levy could easily guarantee himself a more powerful number two position that he has enjoyed thus far, with the foreign affairs portfolio no longer a problem, since if Shamir forms the new government, he will start from scratch and will not be so bound by present portfolio allocations. Levy could win a meaningful share in the leadership this time. In addition, he would not entirely lose the hope of rising to the top himself one day. When Shamir was chosen to succeed Begin, Levy could regard him as a caretaker premier. He still can. If he wins the elections, Shamir will have at most one more term of office. If the Likud loses, Levy will become *de facto* opposition leader, and would be a natural to head the Likud list in the next Knesset elections.

In Labour, Rabin may have to cede the honorary second slot to former president Yitzhak Navon, but he can have the clout of the real number two, if he so wishes, without a fight. Peres is already offering him the defence portfolio, and for Rabin and his supporters a bird in the hand is indeed a safer bet than two in the bush. Not only would Rabin be satisfying at least limited personal ambitions, but he could win the gratitude of wide circles in the party for not dragging Labour once more into a mud-slinging match. Furthermore, his camp would be guaranteed roughly 29 per cent of the spoils if Labour were to win the Knesset race, which is the same proportion of the vote they won in the last Labour convention.

Even if Rabin did not himself occupy the Prime Minister's Office, he might be able to station himself right next door and make Peres' life

far from easy.

One more element in the Labour equation is, of course, Navon. He has been depicted as the new broom who might replace the quarrelsome Rabin-Peres pair. He has a group of boosters in Labour and his popularity ratings are high. He has only one flaw — he is loath to fight. Navon has made no secret of the fact that he would be willing to lead Labour in the elections, but only if he were offered the leadership through a unified party consensus.

Thus Peres, who has had to withstand hard times, would now be asked to yield his primacy just as things are beginning to look up. Rabin might be willing to move aside if he knew he could trounce Peres through Navon.

But Navon has made it amply clear that he would prefer not to take Peres on. The two are old Rafi colleagues and Navon would rather not hurt Peres. Presumably he would also like to avoid getting hit by Peres, who is in no mood to cede the leadership when the premiership appears almost attainable.

KNOWING ALL this, Rabin must keep a very wary eye on Navon, as Levy must on Sharon. Rabin is fully aware that the early elections have paved Navon's way back into politics: too long a wait could have caused him to recede from public memory. But how will Navon return? Most likely as an ally of Peres and not as an adversary. Navon may be satisfied with a position of honour — deputy premier, minister for the Jewish people, welfare minister, education minister, or foreign minister. Versions abound, but Rabin has reason to fear that Peres may win Navon over and the troika at the top may be loaded, to begin with, in Peres' favour. The same suspicions must fill Levy's heart in regard to Sharon. It is not inconceivable that Shamir could neutralize Sharon with a promise for an executive portfolio should he form the next government, meaning that Levy would once more have to contend with a united front against him.

Meanwhile, however, the two potential challengers are the darlings of their respective incumbent party leaders — at least for the time being. No matter what Rabin's disposition, Peres could not be friendlier. He has taken care to be seen sitting with Rabin at the same table in the Knesset Members' dining room day after day. The ostensible harmony between them has got old party hands rubbing their eyes. The two rivals have not called each other names in public lately, have worked with some semblance of cooperation, and have even been

caught smiling at each other a few times.

Things are not so different on the other side, where Shamir suddenly decided that Levy is worth consulting with after all. Ever since early elections became inevitable, Levy has been invited to more tête-à-tête conferences than ever before. It almost appears that Shamir will not make a move without his trusted confidant — Levy. Not so long ago, Levy was making a fuss about being left in the dark and being unable to penetrate the Shamir-Arens-Orgad inner sanctum.

SO SIMILAR are the emerging patterns in the two parties, that pundits in both are willing to wager that their party will avoid any battle for the leadership and keep the peace at any cost if the other appears to be headed away from conflict and towards some sort of internal deal. If one party opts for a fight, it will be harder to keep the peace in the other. Moreover, neither will, in the end, dare to replace its leader. In the Likud it would be interpreted as unseating a prime minister and in Labour as a no-confidence vote for the man who has led the party so far.

And if all this is true, we will — for better or worse — have a first-ever election campaign totally devoid of any traces of charisma, sparkle, or even a little razzle-dazzle. This will be the first campaign ever without Begin's political magic and the first in which both leading contestants can best be characterized as lacklustre anti-heroes. Instead of Begin's one-man show, we will have troika versus troika, or even a larger leadership team versus another leadership team in a campaign dominated by shades of grey, plain, prosy and commonplace.

Without Begin, there will be no real kings of Israel in the arena this time. Perhaps the only one to lay claim to some royal status would be Sharon, but even his most ardent devotees will readily admit that he is only a second-best substitute for the real thing. He is no more than a frustrated disputatious pretender. The number of his followers will not match Begin's and, far from being wholly loyal to the self-crowned would-be king, they long for the old one and seek any replacement to remind them of the old monarchy.

All this is on condition that the pretender to the throne does not destroy himself by stirring up too much trouble for the man who really succeeded the king, even if Herut's new man in power cannot command comparable admiration or aspire to his predecessor's style.

The writer is The Post political reporter.

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Planning to get out

By HIRSH GOODMAN

BY THE TIME the elections come around in late July, the IDF could very well be out of Lebanon. Sounds improbable? Well, not according to several senior defence officials spoken to earlier this week, who insist that they are quite serious. Careful to point out that their optimism is conditional on "things going according to plan" — something that has not necessarily been Israel's experience in Lebanon in the past — these officials claim that within three to four months the army could be brought back home, leaving only a few hundred specialist advisers on Lebanese soil, to help the reconstituted army of the late Major Sa'ad Haddad protect Galilee from terrorism for us.

If the plan sounds familiar, it is because it is. The Lebanese solution Israeli defence planners are now praying to achieve is almost the situation that existed before Operation Peace for Galilee, as the government still insists on calling this war. True, as opposed to 1978, the PLO's military infrastructure in Southern Lebanon has been destroyed, but now there are new terrorists — perhaps even a more dangerous enemy than the structured and basically familiar PLO under the command of Yasser Arafat that we knew in the past.

Defence officials are adamant that the solution that is currently in the air has nothing to do with the pending elections, but that it has become possible due to changed circumstances in Lebanon. The minute President Jemayel abrogated the May 17 agreement, these officials say, Israel was released from any commitment other than to its own interests. Until that time, to have undertaken any unilateral steps in Lebanon that would have undermined Jemayel's government — such as setting up an independent army in the south — would have been in contradiction to Israel's declared position of supporting the extension of Lebanese

sovereignty to all of Lebanon, and thus, unthinkable.

Now that Jemayel has ceased to exist as a potential political ally; that the U.S. and the European members of the Multi-National Force have disengaged themselves from Lebanon; and, perhaps most important, that the people of the south have despaired of the protection of the Christian government in Beirut ever reaching them, it is possible to do what could not have been done before: get out.

IF THE PLAN works, it will go something like this:

In the next few weeks, perhaps within the coming week, a commander will be named by the people of Southern Lebanon to pick up where Haddad left off. The commander will be a former high-ranking Lebanese officer with a good military record, and a man considered to be a Lebanese patriot. His appointment will be linked to Jemayel's sell-out to the Syrians, and to the south's need to protect itself from again becoming the battlefield of the Palestinians' war against the Zionists.

Israel will do all it can to make this force effective. It will pay those who serve in this independent army salaries equivalent to those in the Lebanese Army, and perhaps even a bit more to try and buy a little more loyalty. Over the next three or four months (again, if everything goes according to plan) the force will be doubled to around 2,500 men under arms, and its equipment will be updated and modernized.

Several hundred Israeli advisers will be attached to this force at all times, helping to build up the surrogate army both operationally and logistically, making it superior to any other force in the land, other than

the Syrians, who are not the problem.

This force will deploy itself, on Israel's instructions, in an area north of the international border, to a depth Israel considers necessary to prevent the return of organized terrorism. It will man roadblocks; keep an ear to the ground in the villages to learn who is coming and going; patrol key smuggling routes; and be sufficiently well trained and armed to take effective military action against an obstinate threat.

And to back up all this, highly-skilled Israeli combat units could be sent into action almost immediately in the unlikely event of something happening that Haddad's successor and his new army were incapable of handling.

"SYRIA's victory has provided the key for our liberation from Lebanon," one senior defence official said this week. "If Amin had refused to give in, we would be bogged down on the Awaril forever. His capitulation has allowed for new thinking."

The official did not deny that there was a lot that is old in the new thinking. Nor did he deny that, given the solution finally found, not much seems to have been gained from this war in Lebanon.

Again, the security of the north is more or less dependent on the erratic loyalty of an ethnically mixed force in an ethnically volcanic country, where new terrorists have replaced the old, and where almost 600 Israeli lives were spent in creating a new order.

But this is not the fault of the present upper echelons in either the Defence Ministry or the army. Neither Defence Minister Moshe Arens, nor Chief of Staff Moshe Levy can be counted as among the architects of this war, and the burden they inherited was not an easy one.

But both Arens and Levy have, until now, been indecisive about how to extricate Israel from the quagmire — almost as if their professional opinions were in conflict with declared government dogma on the matter.

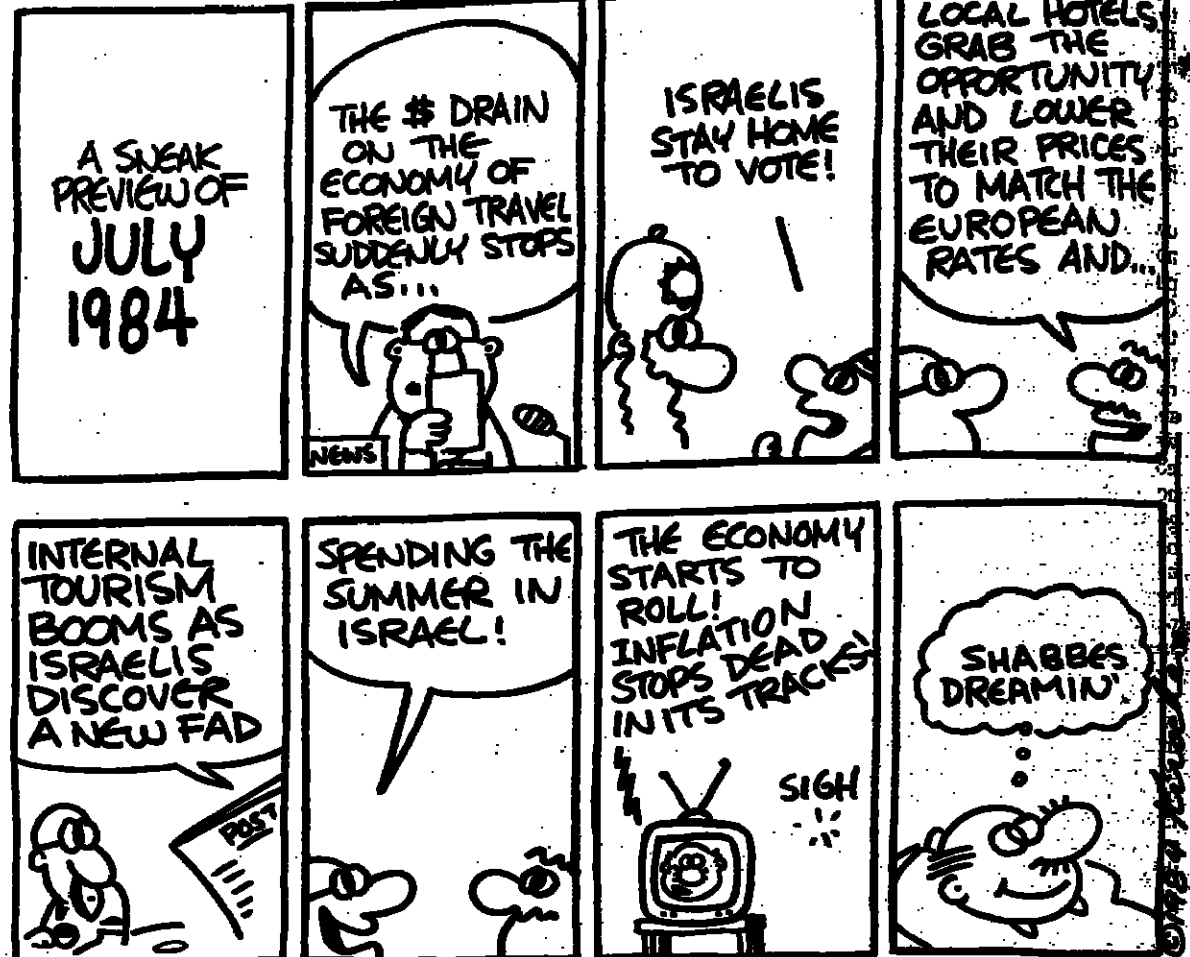
"Look," a senior defence official said recently, "we have finally come to realize that the question is not whether Katyushas will fall on Galilee, but how many will fall. It is not a question of probability, but of quantity."

He went on to explain that, in addition to the political and military changes that have taken place in Lebanon recently, there has been a philosophical revolution in Israel as well. The government has finally agreed to file away Menachem Begin's promise made in Petah Tikva during the last election campaign that "no more Katyushas will ever fall on Galilee" under "rhetoric," rather than "policy directive," and has set about looking for a pragmatic solution.

ISRAELI officials are confident that their plan is going to work. They claim that there will be no difficulty in finding another 1,200 recruits for the southern army. Despite threats coming down from the north, the Shi'ites of the south have displayed little hesitancy about joining the Christian-dominated forces, and in some cases have even assumed command positions. The new man slated to take over these forces has impressed those who have met him and, in general, the future looks better, at least as far as those in the defence establishment are concerned. "For the first time in a long time I'm allowing myself to think that there may be some light at the end of the tunnel," one official said this week.

Little could prick the new-found optimism. That Israel has not managed to come to an understanding with the Shi'ites in the north, leaving

The Friday Dry Bones



a serious question mark over future relations with the Shi'ites in the south, is "true but unavoidable," as is the question of what is going to happen in the Bekaa. While officials concede that a mass return of Abu Mussa's radicalized PLO to areas that will be vacated by the IDF and remain unpatrolled by Southern Lebanese forces, could constitute a problem, they would not be in a position to threaten Israeli settlements anywhere near as seriously as Arafat's moderates were doing two years ago.

It seems, therefore, that those responsible for moulding Israel's

policy in the north are determined to let nothing prevent the IDF's getting out soon. They are no longer speaking about withdrawal to an interim line, but withdrawal in toto — that is if everything goes according to plan, however. And, one can be excused for being a bit sceptical about things going according to plan when it comes to Lebanon.

But there is a plan; and that in itself is good news. It matters little that, by withdrawing under the conditions now being proposed, the government is in effect admitting that there is nothing to be salvaged from the war. Other, that is, than to try

and restore the strategy that some worked in the past, and probably could have continued to work had the limits of its power at the outset of the war. That it may be the upcoming elections that have given birth to the new impetus is unimportant, as is the observation that what the government is proposing was advocated publicly by opposition leader Shimon Peres a few weeks ago, to be dismissed by government spokesmen as "simplistic."

What matters is that finally, things be allowed to go according to plan. The writer is The Jerusalem Post's deputy correspondent.

IN HIS recent address to the Young Leadership of the UJA, President Reagan seemed to have stumbled on a new truth. He mentioned that when, two weeks earlier, terrorists had planted hand grenades outside a store on a Jerusalem street and 21 people were injured, "Yasser Arafat, on behalf of the PLO, praised the attack on innocent civilians." He had the gall, added Reagan, "to call it a military operation."

This criticism of Arafat and the Palestine Liberation Organization must surely have upset the pro-Arab stalwarts in his administration, who dominate U.S. policy. They do not relish any statement likely to point up the chronic failure of U.S. governments to face the realities of the Arab-Jewish conflict and indeed the realities of the Middle East altogether.

Arafat's "gall" is not a new phenomenon. New only is its ap-

Monumental hoax

By SHMUEL KATZ

parently sudden revelation by an American president. His audience may well have recalled, in this Olympics year, the carefully planned murder by Arafat's emissaries of 11 Israeli sportsmen at the Munich games in 1972. That, too, was celebrated as a great military operation.

They might recall, too, the 1974 series of equally famous PLO exploits. Just ten years ago, shortly before dawn on April 11, PLO infiltrators from Lebanon went into Kiryat Shmona, penetrated apartments in two buildings, flung grenades and fired bursts from automatic weapons at the occupant families. By the time Israeli soldiers caught up with them, they had killed nine men and women and seven children, aged between two-and-a-half and 14. Sixteen men, women and children were wounded.

Even more impressive was the PLO achievement in the village of Ma'alot the next month. At three o'clock in the morning, terrorists woke up the residents in an apartment and shot a couple and their infant children (one of whom survived). They then crossed the road to a school where 100 children — on a hiking tour from Safad — were sleeping. They awakened them, herded them together in one room and held them hostage for 14 hours. When Israeli soldiers reached the building, the terrorists opened fire in that enclosed space: 84 of the children were hit. Twenty died. When the Arab states' foreign ministers met in conference later that year, Farouk Kadoumi, the leader of Arafat's delegation,

described these events as "great operations of military heroism." These were but examples of those years of PLO terror, and the perceptions of Arafat and his colleagues. Indeed what were the achievements that brought the PLO its fame in the world if not the spectacular attacks on innocent and unarmed civilians — with special attention to children?

THE SIGNIFICANCE of the history of the PLO, however, is much broader. It was not only its own leaders who boasted of PLO operations. Its murders were hailed with uniform enthusiasm throughout all the Arab states; and 1974, that vintage year for PLO terror, saw their energetic concentrated diplomatic campaign — which succeeded — to secure the invitation for Arafat to appear at the UN to address the world.

The PLO was never an independent organization created and maintained by a "Palestinian people." Its funds (which ultimately ran into astronomical figures) came from the Arab states, notably from Saudi Arabia. Before it established its own training centres in Lebanon, and thus became the central source of "professional" preparation and inspiration for the terrorists of the whole world — European, Far Eastern and South American — it was itself provided with training facilities in the Arab states. Before it was recognized by Moscow as a useful client, deserving of large quantities of variegated arms (paid for by Saudi Arabia), the PLO had acquired its weapons from the Arab states.

The Arab states, at their conference in Rabat in October 1974 not only recognized the PLO formally as the "sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people," but also pledged themselves to support it in all its undertakings.

THE ARABS have proved themselves superb propagandists. During the Six Day War they realized that it was not palatable for Western tastes that the great Arab nation, occupying its many states and tremendous territories (ultimately some 14 million square kilometres), rich beyond all their dreams in resources indisposible to the modern world, should be conducting a war of annihilation against the tiny Jewish State.

They consequently launched a universal campaign of indoctrination to make it appear that the dispute was really between an aggressive (and illegitimate) Jewish State and a poor, homeless, "Palestinian people." Their tactic was understandable. After all, they knew the facts on the ground. The territory they insist Israel should return to Arab hands was in Arab hands when they attacked Israel — in 1967, as in 1948. After all, the PLO, whose alleged longing for the "West Bank" was uncontrollable, was formed precisely in the period when the "West Bank" was in fact in Arab hands — in 1964 — and it directed its activities against Israel within the Armistice lines.

These guilty facts needed to be smothered by the protection of a so-called "Palestinian problem." Smothered essentially was the central fact that the PLO is not a liberation movement at all. It is an anti-liberation movement, aiming at the eradication of the Jewish homeland and its people.

American administrations, for reasons of their own, have promoted this monumental hoax, and — if one may use the language employed by President Reagan — they have the gall to try to sell it to its intended victims; the Jewish people. Moreover they try to foist on Israel the image of the PLO as a perfectly normal political organization with acceptable aims, with whom it would be desirable and reasonable to negotiate if only Yasser Arafat could be persuaded to mouth some kind of formula accepting Security Council resolutions.

THAT IS not all. The image of the homeless Palestinian people — which has captured the imagination of so many people throughout the world and has been promoted unblushingly by Western statesmen kowtowing to the dictates of the Saudi (and other) oil princes and petrodollar purveyors — suffers its daily exposure as a pure fiction by the very existence of Jordan. The Kingdom of Jordan is in fact the eastern part of Palestine. It occupies three-quarters of the territory originally designated by the world's nations to "reconstitute" the Jewish national home, and handed in trust to Britain after World War I precisely because it had undertaken to facilitate fulfil-

ment of that purpose. The British compounded their initial perfidy of presenting Transjordan to the Hedjaz prince Abdallah by aiding and abetting him in his attempt in 1948 to gain control, by war, of Western Palestine as well.

American administrations (and other promoters of the idea of a "homeless Palestinian people") have ignored the admittedly embarrassing fact that the PLO itself insists that the Palestine that belongs to the "Palestinian people" includes Transjordan, that is Jordan. What could be more "homeless" than a people which controls 90,000 square kilometres of land?

There is indeed a Palestine problem. It is the problem of the Arabs in their frustration at not having succeeded thus far in erasing the "intruder" Jewish State from "the heart of the Arab world" and in their continuing expectation of achieving their end, whether by war, by diplomacy or by the fomenting of internal dissension in Israel.

ARAB GALL then is related not only to the depiction of murder as heroism. It is the central feature of

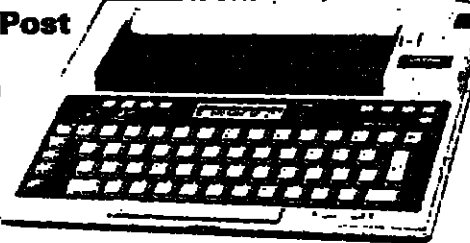
the entire Arab claim to Palestine. It is wonderfully exemplified by the claim of Jordan, the east Palestinian state, to legitimize its 1948 rape of Western Palestine and incidentally to erase from public memory its attempt to finish the job in 1967.

Yet the U.S. persists in its support of that legitimization. It pressures Israel not only to negotiate with Jordan, but indeed to guarantee in advance acceptance of King Hussein's demand for the return of Judea and Samaria to his control. That after all is the heart and soul of the Reagan Plan.

True, one cannot blame only Washington. The fierce desire for peace in Israel has given birth to defeatist ideas and flabby diplomacy, which have helped bolster the myth that appeasement and concessions are (in spite of bitter past experience) a feasible basis for peace. In fact, if the Reagan Plan were consummated, Jordan would become a full partner with the other Arab states in planning the next stage in ridding the world of the Jewish State — and thus, as a galling by-product, in eliminating American influence in the Middle East.

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"WHAT ME? Managing Director of Israel, Inc.?" chuckled Avraham Shapira, the genial coalition executive chairman and Agudat Yisrael Knesset faction head. He was reacting with hilarity to the label attached to him by many political columnists. His Palestinian figure shook with much as he puffed the notion, declaring: "On Purim, maybe I could take the title. But not during the rest of the year. I don't deserve it."

My first interview with the affable owner of Carmel Carpets and Gienot was in 1981, when he was catapulted into politics by the Rabbi of Qiryat, his mentor. At the time I thought he would be eaten alive by the veteran sharks of Agudat Yisrael, and I had my doubts about his ability to adapt to the political arena where going for the jugular is the norm. But, like everyone else, I had not perceived the steel beneath the good-humoured grin; nor could I, or anyone else in the profession, have foreseen the speed with which he became one of the most powerful personalities in the country. "It would seem that I wasn't all that much of a political 'green'," he concedes in retrospect. "After all, I am a citizen of the State of Israel. And we do live in a country where the events of one week suffice for an entire year in other lands. If you're in business in Israel, you have to closely follow political developments, because they influence everything and one can't escape their shadow, whether it's in industry or the Stock Exchange."

For many people, Avraham Shapira has become the acceptable face of ultra-Orthodoxy; he has also made inroads into the political establishment, which no other Agudat Yisrael representative succeeded in doing before him. He was one of ex-premier Menachem Begin's confidants, and his three-storey mansion in north Tel Aviv has become a favourite meeting place of politicians on both sides of the Knesset aisle.

Under the Likud regime his canny fellow Agudat MK's have known how to make the most of their pivotal position; and in his three years on the parliamentary scene he has enjoyed a meteoric ascent. He is not only chairman of the coalition executive, but also a member of the Ministerial Economic Committee and chairman of the Bank of Israel's Advisory Council.

More than any ultra-Orthodox MK before him, Avraham Shapira has acquired nationwide popularity. Cartoonists love to depict his rotund figure, topped by an ever-growing face with a huge cigar jutting out of his mouth.

I WITNESSED the measure of his popularity on a somewhat unex-

pected occasion. The only way I could interview him was to travel with him in his Oldsmobile 79 to Haifa where he made a condolence call. As we walked to the car, passers-by, none of them Orthodox, warmly greeted Shapira. He stood there radiating pleasure as they congratulated him on the job he was doing. "Should I continue in the Knesset?" he asked one man, who quickly replied: "You're certainly nicer than most of the others." Some youngsters interrupted their playing to cry out: "We know you from television."

His home, ruled by his wife Thea, is a constant hive of activity. The exterior, with its protective wall and garage (large enough for three cars), projects an aura of restrained opulence. A small elevator connects the basement, with its private mikve and special Pessah kitchen, to the reception and living quarters. The Shapiras have an enviable collection of Judaica; on each doorpost there is a beautifully wrought silver mezuzah.

While I waited for the master of the house to finish his morning prayers, I chatted with his youngest son, Shmuel, and his son-in-law, Yehoshua Broier. The former attends the Ponivesh yeshiva in Bnei Brak, the latter studies at the Mir yeshiva in Jerusalem. Both places come under the Mitnagdim Lithuanian wing of Aguda, while Shapira pere is the spearhead of the Hassidic wing. All deny that it reflects a shrewd approach to Aguda factional politics. Both young men are well-tailored in pin-stripe suits, another sign of their families' comfortable capacity to enjoy both worlds.

Finally Avraham Shapira emerged and we proceeded to the waiting limousine. A group of hassidim wanted to talk to him. They decided to follow behind by taxi and meet him on our return from Haifa at his factory in Or Akiva. I felt as if I was, at the centre of a court, with hassidim on one side and his business manager and chauffeur on the other.

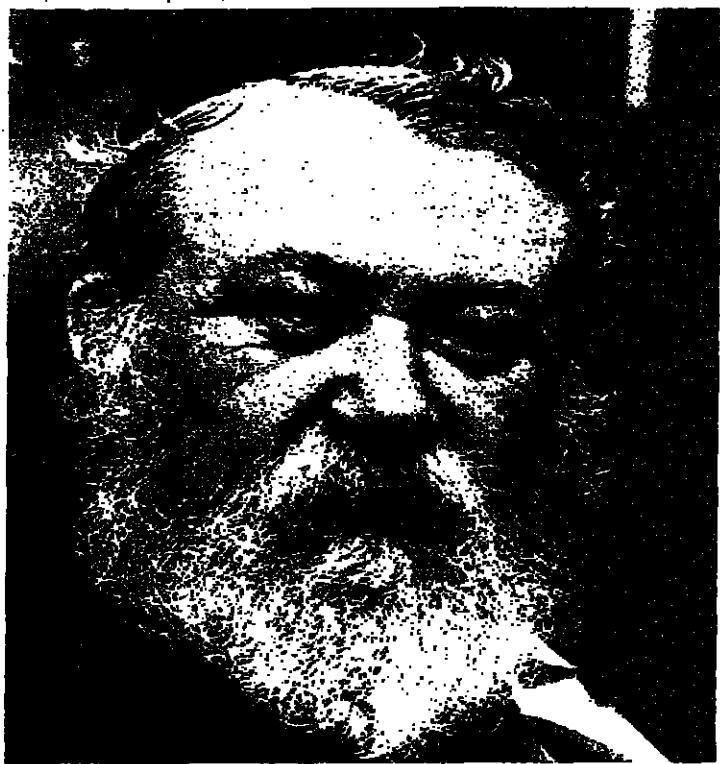
MY HOST had had two hour's sleep, less than even he is used to. He managed to get to bed at 4 a.m., what with the election-eve politics and the constant flow of visitors to his home. How did he manage? I asked.

"I manage on coffee and cigars," he replied, taking another fine Havana out of the pile of cigar boxes that his chauffeur always replenishes. The Aguda leader also takes catnaps during his long drives across country. A 20-minute nap "refueled" his "batteries" for half a day.

He said the Aguda did not oppose an early election date. "Our constituency does not vote according to the latest price index. Our voters are united around the Council of

Agudat Yisrael's Avraham Shapira talks about the political scene to Mark Segal

The face of Orthodoxy



(Israel Sun)

Sages, and recognize the indispensability of their Aguda representatives in the Knesset. They acknowledge our sterling work in caring for the ultra-Orthodox educational institutions from the independent school network to the yeshivot and kolelim."

In the period leading up to the elections, Shapira's party will do all it can to complete its unfinished legislative business and try to rectify breaches of Sabbath observance and similar transgressions against religious tradition. He was most upset at the "increase in the number of abortions since we enacted the [amendment to the abortion] law. There are more since the law passed than before. Nor has the police arrested even one doctor for performing an abortion. Agudat Yisrael does not always manage to get its way, but we try all the time."

Does Aguda have a timetable for

its pet projects in the pre-election Knesset session?

"As I said, we'll do our best. But we will take care only to push such bills [for instance, the 'who is a Jew' amendment] if we are sure of a majority. One definite target is to kill the scheme to introduce summer time in May. Why? 'It increases the sacrilege of the Holy Sabbath,' was the peremptory reply.

I MENTIONED having heard that Agudat Yisrael was so riven with factional and personal enmity that it was often referred to as four parties under a joint umbrella. Shapira was only ready to concede that "we have four factions, but that does not interfere with party unity. Other parties should have as unified a Knesset faction as ours." He then said with a flash of wit: "That is correct for this very moment."

When I prodded him on prospective changes in the Aguda list, he

remained silent on the replacement of his two veteran fellow MKs, Shlomo Lorincz and Menachem Porush, in keeping with the Council of Sages' rotation order. Asked if there was any doubt that he himself would continue, he replied disingenuously: "With us the Council of Sages has the last word. But it is true that the central faction which I head is the leading faction in the party."

Was he worried about the emergence of a rival Sephardi hardi list led by former Sephardi Chief Rabbi Ovadia Yosef? "No, I'm not worried. After all, Agudat Yisrael was founded 72 years ago and it has gone from strength to strength thanks to the guidance of the Council of Sages. I am convinced of our success in the coming elections," he replied.

I failed to draw him on the subject of the ascendancy of his non-Zionist party at a time when the National Religious Party, the current manifestation of the Religious Zionist movement, seemed to be falling apart. Instead, he regaled me with an anecdote from the period of the presidential elections when Dr. Burg had refused to stand as a candidate.

"I told him, why don't you take the presidency for one term, you can always return to the Interior Ministry after that."

"I must say," Shapira added hurriedly, "one never sees the slightest sign of ageing on Dr. Burg. He hasn't changed one bit in all the years I've known him."

Shapira insisted time and again during our conversation that he was strongly opposed to religious coercion, and together with his fellow Aguda leaders had always strongly condemned violence committed in the name of religion. I wondered whether he now regretted his mediation bid in the Petah Tikva Sabbath observance fight. He explained patiently that "I intervened in Petah Tikva because it is part of my nature to make peace among my fellow Jews. I was also anxious to restore the status quo in Sabbath observance in the town. Regrettably, things don't always proceed as one might wish. But I must go on the record with praise for Labour Party chairman Shimon Peres for his very nice attitude towards me in the course of my mediation effort. He also tried his best, but in the final analysis the local people have to arrange things between themselves. As it turned out the decisive word came from the local chief rabbis, who did not believe in the proposed arrangement. I can only pray that the people there will eventually find a common language. But what is paramount is that Sabbath observance should return to what it was all the years in Petah Tikva."

HOW DID he take the criticism that

he was, in his pleasant way and with a smile, trying to turn the clock back for Israeli society? The coalition executive chairman vigorously denied such a notion. "It's totally untrue. I've no intention of trying to turn back the clock. But we are dealing with the Sabbath, the most sacred possession of the Jewish people. After all, the Sabbath is not the concern only of Agudat Yisrael."

The compliments he received from passers-by in Haifa greatly heartened Avraham Shapira. "The fact that people like me gives me great satisfaction," he said, pointing out that "all those who engage in public life enjoy the reward granted by the Almighty — the affection of the public."

"People know that I was sent to the Knesset in order to instill more Tora and spirituality into the life of the Jewish State, which can never be just another country of the Mediterranean. I am sure that the non-religious public appreciates what I've been trying to do and likes the way I cleave to democratic means without resorting to coercion."

I tried to gauge his feelings towards the Likud's performance in governing the country. I started by quoting the late deputy premier Simcha Ehrlich on the Likud's lack of the culture of government. Shapira cut me short by declaring: "Perhaps that was true of their first term in office, but they have learned since then." However, "if they had proven more cohesive, the coalition could have lasted comfortably until 1985."

"I know how some ministers keep silent during most cabinet discussions. But the moment the meeting breaks up they rush to [Kol Yisrael political reporter] Shimon Shiffer and tell him how they sparked in the debate."

Focusing on the Likud's record in office, the coalition executive chairman saw a clear division between the days of Menachem Begin at the Prime Minister's Office and those of Yitzhak Shamir.

As to his three years of close association with the Likud, Shapira said he had felt marvellous in the first year and had thought things were going smoothly. "During the second year, when we got involved in the war in Lebanon, we suddenly noticed that Begin had ceased to talk during the latter half of the year. That really worried us."

Was it because of the way the war went? "I'm certain he expected it to turn out quite differently. All of our prime ministers, with the exception of Levi Eshkol, ended their years of office with a bitter taste. That certainly goes for Ben-Gurion, Sharett, as well as Golda Meir."

DID HE NOT see in Begin's

tragedy a Job-like situation? "I don't see anything comparable to Job, may the Almighty forbid such an idea. After all, he did promise to quit politics at the age of 70, and for Begin his word is sacred."

Was Begin's condition not a consequence of the war? "All those doubts must have influenced him to seclude himself and not speak out... Anyone who begins to speculate, whether it was due to his wife's death, or because of Lebanon, may be right in part or in full. Only the Almighty and Begin himself know the truth of the matter. I have no doubt that Begin was profoundly disappointed by the behaviour of some of his party colleagues. I am not ready to mention names. Anyone who watched the expressions of various people prior to his resignation can hardly be surprised as to the depth of the sense of injury he carried with him. To my mind it's only because of his nobility of spirit that Begin does not name names."

"There is no doubt that he is the last great leader of his generation. He always saw beyond the boundaries of this country, and always thought not only of the good of the nation living Israel but of the welfare of the Jewish people throughout the world. He had a great Jewish vision and that was mainly because he had lived abroad and comprehended the Jewish condition."

AT MY REQUEST he switched his attention to the government's economic policy. "I would say that Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orad is getting closer to the policies of the late Pinhas Sapir. He seems to aspire to rather conservative policy lines, preferring to concentrate on the balance of trade rather than raging inflation. I imagine, what with elections just round the corner, that he's in trouble, and will find it immeasurably more difficult to pull this economic cart out of the mud. We needed a national unity government that could pursue tough economic measures. Above all, there should have been some kind of package deal between the government, the Histadrut, and the employers for a freeze of wages, subsidies, prices and taxes. After all, by increasing taxes you only add fuel to the flames of inflation."

I pressed him on his coalition preferences in the future. As canny a politician as ever, Avraham Shapira said: "I won't commit myself now. I'll let you know the day after the elections. I'll see the results and then you can ask me. But I hope that neither of the big parties will win an absolute majority, so they'll have to reach an agreement with Agudat Yisrael," he declared with an impish smile.

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THE ARGY-BARGY between coalition and opposition in the Knesset last week on how to vote on the dissolution bill reveals shockingly how far politicians are ready to go in the pursuit of narrow party interests.

The government wanted a secret vote because they hoped that some opposition members with poor prospects of re-election would poll against dissolution for an entirely selfish reason: to keep their Knesset seats a year longer. They would not dare do that in an open ballot.

Defence Minister Moshe Arens was challenged over the issue in a lengthy radio interview last Friday. He protested his party's innocence: how could anyone suspect that faction members would vote against their own side for such a mercenary reason?

The interviewer missed a trick there. He should have countered by asking the minister why in that case the Likud was so keen that the poll be secret.

NETANEL LORCH, who was clerk to the Knesset for 11 years, considers that the coalition's initiative in this matter was an abuse of parliamentary procedure. He has written a book in Hebrew due to be on sale in a few weeks time called *The Knesset from a Different Angle*.

What in his expert eyes was wrong with the coalition's maneuver on this occasion? "Voting in the Knesset is supposed to be open and public," he said. "The regulations require that there be a show of hands. The electorate has the right to know how its delegates conduct themselves.

"The only exception is when a personal issue is at stake, e.g., the election of the country's president, or the nomination of Knesset members to the committee that appoints judges in Israel, or the cancellation of a member's parliamentary immunity." It is better that the person whose destiny is in the balance should not know which of his colleagues voted for him and which against.

But the Dissolution of Parliament Bill had no personal aspect warranting secrecy. The Likud fell back therefore on what Lorch describes as "the famous and infamous Article 148." The implication of this clause is that the rules of parliamentary procedure can be dispensed with if a majority of the House Committee so decides.

The intention was innocent — to allow alterations of procedure for the sake of practical convenience, e.g. (on one occasion), waiving a prescribed 24 hours' delay period

Bending the rules

The regulations that lawmakers must observe are manipulated by Knesset members. Netanel Lorch, who was an officer of the House for 11 years, talks about how it's done to The Post's David Krivine



when, as it happened, none of the parties needed it.

But to change the official voting procedure for the political advantage of one party over another — that is something else.

Lorch explains: "Rules exist for the protection of those who constitute a minority. The majority doesn't need rules; it has the power of decision. If it uses that power to jettison accepted procedures, it is destroying not only the rule-book, it is destroying the institution of which it is a part."

His conclusion: "Article 148 was all right as long as it was observed in a proper spirit. Now that an attempt has been made to misuse it, the whole section should be abolished, through the enactment of an appropriate amendment."

REGULATIONS ARE never completely watertight, there are always loopholes. Exploiting them is part of the parliamentary game, and most of the time "it is good clean fun," in Lorch's view.

When he was Israel's ambassador in Peru, that country had a more democratic constitution. The senate could oust any cabinet minister, and proceeded to get rid of 150 in five years.

One threatened minister tried a filibuster, speaking for 13 consecutive hours. It didn't help; but it was a brave attempt.

He couldn't have done that in Israel. The regulations fix a time-limit for speeches — 20 minutes for addresses during the first reading of a bill, five minutes for amendments on the second reading, and so on.

There is, however, a way round that. When the two big parties colluded to introduce the Bader-Ofir law (distributing surplus votes at elections in a manner favorable to them), the small parties which opposed it submitted a lot of amendments and a lot of rhetoricians to back each amendment. Although each speech-maker was only allowed five minutes, the debate lasted from 4 o'clock that afternoon till 6 o'clock the following morning.

A party can, if it wants to, register all its delegates for debate on a first reading. Labour with its 50 members could thus arrogate to itself 50 times 10 or 20 minutes of speaking-time.

"Or it can do the opposite," says Lorch with a grin. "It can register 20 speakers for a given debate, and at the last minute cross 15 off, bringing the issue to a vote earlier than scheduled. All its representatives would be in their seats at the crucial moment — leaving the government side with its pants down."

Do these things happen? "Of course," he chuckles, "and there are others. During the 11th Knesset, opposition members left the house in large numbers, exiting through the main door. Their departure was duly recorded on the electronic board.

"But they quietly filtered back through a rear entrance, which had no electronic board. They hid in a room till the voting bell rang, then flooded into the chamber — and outvoted the coalition."

LORCH SEES nothing wrong with such tricks and devices. "They keep the coalition on its toes." But not all eccentricities are equally harmless. There are various privileges and prerogatives: they can sometimes be used to deflect the course of legislation.

Chairmen of the Knesset committees fix the agenda. That gives them considerable influence over the course of events. "A vital factor in the fate of a measure is whether it finds itself at the top or the bottom," he says.

The recent bill on smoking in public places could have been sent to any of several committees. It was sent to the one whose chairman favoured the bill, and it consequently went through speedily.

The national health insurance

bill, on the other hand, is stuck in the Labour and Welfare Committee, whose chairman, Rabbi Menahem Porush, is against it. This piece of legislation never gets to be considered, there is always something else to be discussed first.

Not surprisingly under the circumstances, the government traditionally insists on holding the chairmanship of the two most important committees, Finance, and Foreign Affairs and Defence.

If a bill is held up until the termination of the current Knesset, it expires — unless the cabinet formed by the succeeding Knesset specifically requests the bill to be held over. The Knesset also has to give its assent to the act of resuscitation.

"Quite a number of bills have been laid to rest peacefully in this way," he says. One of them is the Moshavim Law, which had a chapter on cooperative institutions that aroused controversy in the moshav movement. It was not voted in or out, it was just allowed to die of inanition.

The Knesset has 10 committees. Who heads them? The rules do not say, but there is a tradition: half the chairmen are appointed by the government, half by the opposition. But the government is supposed to retain a majority in all of them.

At the beginning of the present Knesset a row broke out, and for a moment the survival of that tradition was placed in jeopardy. The government coalition at the time had only 61 members, a majority of two over the opposition.

It could not therefore secure a majority in all the committees. Committee members generally number around 180, that is, 1.5 seats per member. In theory the coalition would have been entitled to 91.5 seats, the opposition to 88.5, a difference of three. But the government needs a surplus of 10 if it is to supply one extra person for each committee.

During the wrangling over the division of seats, a coalition leader — Lorch wouldn't say who — declared that in face of Labour's obduracy the government would claim the chairmanship of all the committees. Lorch: "Had that happened, the tradition of half and half would have been destroyed. If the Likud held all 10 chairmanships during the present parliament, do you think that Labour would content themselves with five when they achieved power?"

Fortunately the threat of the zealous politician had some success. In exchange for agreement to keep

its five chairmanships, the opposition allowed the coalition additional representatives, enabling them to retain a majority on all committees.

LORCH WAS evidently displeased with this hard bargaining, because he believes that the traditions are as important as the rules and should not be subject to political deals. They were evolved for a good reason. "They provide the opposition with a function other than just to oppose, a stake in the proceedings, a participation in running the assembly."

"If the danger arises that one or other of these traditions may be discarded in the thrust and parry of party conflict, that tradition should," he asserts firmly, "be embedded in a law."

The same kind of dilemma exists in the selection of deputy-speakers. No rule applies here, only a tradition. Theoretically again, the government could appoint a panel of deputy-speakers, all of its own party. Tradition says that the posts should be allocated to the parties proportionately to their strength. This creates pressures for a proliferation of deputy-speakers, which is not a good thing in Lorch's view.

Holders of these positions have two functions. One is to attend a weekly meeting with the speaker at which the parliamentary agenda is fixed. There should be no objection to a multiplicity of deputy-speakers for the purpose of this consultation. Indeed, he adds, "some parliaments abroad devote an entire steering committee to the task."

But when it comes to the job of presiding over sessions of the plenum, that is another matter. He

recalls: "Once the Communists suggested that all the small parties band together and secure a deputy-speaker between them. There would be a rota, the post being at the disposal of the Communists in that year, Agudat Yisrael the following year, and so on."

"That would have been disastrous. It is important to maintain some kind of uniformity in the conduct of the Knesset's proceedings." The person presiding over a session must see the job as a specially responsible one, he needs to rise above purely sectoral considerations. The present speaker, Menahem Savidor, gave a good example last week over the dissolution bill. He opted for an open vote, against his own party's preference for a secret poll.

If a whole tribe of deputy-speakers is appointed, representing the entire political constellation, standards will not be kept up. Lorch recalls that at different times the Knesset has had as many as eight deputy-speakers.

Problems arose. His own seat as secretary-general was just below the speaker's chair. He was supposed to press a button illuminating a light in front of the presiding officer whenever an orator exceeded his allotted span. On one occasion he did that and the deputy-speaker who presided took no notice.

Questioned afterwards, the worthy chairman explained that it was a pity to interrupt so interesting an address. The captivating word-monger was, needless to say, a man of his own party.

Another deputy-speaker exercised the habit of taking short naps while in the chair.

Are so many deputy-speakers needed? Lorch thinks not. The House of Commons in Britain sits four times as long each year as the Knesset (because it has many more members wishing to be heard; also, until recently, it did not use the committee system as the Knesset does). Yet the speaker in the Mother of Parliaments shares his burden with only two people: his deputy-speaker and the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee.

Lorch concludes that two deputy-speakers, one from the government and one from the opposition, would be enough in Israel, at least for the task of presiding over parliamentary debates.

ONE OF THE WORST deceits in Israel's parliamentary activity is the practice that each election must take an unconscionably long time. It doesn't have to. If Britain can choose a new parliament within 30 days of dissolution, Israel should be able to do the same.

"We are in the computer age," Lorch points out. "Up-dating the electoral register can be an on-going operation. There is no need for the present requirement of posting voters' lists in different places with a fixed period of time for appeals. The public should be

asked to make their queries by phone. Requests can be dealt with all the year round."

What about the 100-day interval that has to elapse before a state official can become a parliamentary candidate? "That should cause no delay at normal election times since the official can always resign 100 days before the scheduled dissolution."

"As to early elections, one of which we face now, the regulation should be that state officials take leave from their jobs at the moment of dissolution. Their resignation goes into effect if and when they are elected to parliament."

"The advantage is that a person who fails to get elected does not have to be jobless. This latter provision could apply also for normal elections held at the predetermined time."

Elections generally last five months in Israel, which is wasteful for many reasons. Costs are high, legislation is held up, the government refrains from applying necessary economic policies which are unpopular (or does apply unnecessary ones which are popular), and foreign governments are impeded from undertaking serious negotiations with an administration that has only half-a-year to live.

Meir Shoham, the official in charge at the Interior Ministry, has stated that a 45-day spell is ample. There is no reason why the Knesset shouldn't enact a law fixing that period as the maximum time before the dissolution of one parliament and the election of the next.

Rules are commonly changed for the better in the light of experience. Once Rabbi Porush got over-excited (not surprisingly: the motion was the legalization of prostitution). He ignored three warnings from acting speaker Shoshana Arbel-Almosino. She moved for his election — only to find her proposal defeated in the vote.

On another occasion Knesset member Charley Biton invaded the chamber of a committee to which he did not belong, accompanied by a band of guests (families of persons in prison). The chairman ordered him to leave, and he refused. Deadlock again.

The lesson was learnt. Speakers and committee chairmen now have the right, after three warnings, to expel recalcitrant members from the session without calling for a vote.

Procedural laws have an essential role to play, Lorch concludes. It has been said that politics are too important to be left to politicians. The long-term interests of the nation do not always coincide with the short-term interests of the party, faction or individual. Rules of parliamentary behaviour help to preserve the fight priorities.

"Theodor Herzl realized this necessity," Lorch reminds us. "He drew up, with his own hands, Rules of Proceedings for the first Zionist Congress."

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THE CAMPAIGN for the 11th Knesset has not yet got off the ground, and the country's pollsters are understandably reluctant to pick a winner. Not so the country's three leading political astrologers, all of whom have already made their predictions.

Two of the star-gazers — Ben Lifshitz and Danny Herman — see a Labour victory in the heavens, while Dan Pecker's vision is of a neck-and-neck race, with the Likud coming out on top by a slim margin. All three agree on a few things — that the heavenly bodies do not favour either Yitzhak Navon or Ezer Weizman, and that Yitzhak Shamir will head the Likud list.

Whenever the elections may be, Herman says, a new coalition will not be formed until late October, and it will be headed by either Shimon Peres or Yitzhak Rabin. And, Herman goes on to say, the new government will have a very stormy first year.

The Israeli astrologers are in surprising agreement about the U.S. presidential race: they say that Ronald Reagan will drop out of the contest within the next three months. In Reagan's absence, they say, Vice-President George Bush will be the Republican nominee, and will face Walter Mondale in the November balloting. Pecker predicts a Democratic victory.

Lifshitz and Pecker see danger in the stars, with a new war with Syria due by June. Their colleague, Herman, sees only a slight chance of a new outbreak of hostilities.

THE BEGIN cult of personality is very much alive on the streets of Tel Aviv. I witnessed a demonstration of that fact of political life this week on the corner of Dizengoff and Frishman, when a big American limousine pulled up to the curb. Inside the chauffeur-driven car was entertainer Motti Giladi, made up to look like former premier Menachem Begin.

The appearance caused quite a stir among the afternoon shopping crowd. Some people quickly started chanting "Begin, Begin," while others called out: "We love you. We need you. We want you back."

The Begin impersonation — it took six hours to apply the make-up — is a publicity gimmick for Giladi's new one-man show entitled "Hysteria Repeats Itself" (*Histeria hozeret*). The Dizengoff appearance follows a *Ma'ariv*-sponsored Purim stunt on the streets of Ashdod.

SPEAKING OF Begin, the ex-premier's refusal this week to resign from the Knesset had hope of a comeback springing in some Herut breasts. This despite the repeated statements of Dr. Binyamin Ze'ev (Benny) Begin that his father would not be making an early return to the political lists.

But Begin's loyal aide and sidekick, Yehiel Kadishai, says that his chief is in good health. According to Kadishai, one venture out of his self-imposed isolation in Jerusalem's Yefe Nof quarter would be all that it would take to trigger a Begin comeback.

Kadishai is Begin's most frequent visitor, bringing him mail and newspapers daily. Another regular caller is government secretary Dan Meridor, son of the late Eliahu Meridor, a comrade-in-arms from the IZL days. Meridor, who is also close to Benny Begin, comes every Friday to brief the senior Begin on political developments.

Begin is looked after by his unmarried — and youngest — daughter, Leah, who lives in the flat on Rehov Shlomo Zemach. Both brother Benny and Begin's married daughter, Hassia, also stop by frequently.

But Begin's next-door neighbour, Transport Minister Haim Coria, has not seen him recently. Nor has former Bank of Israel governor Yoram Gafay, who lives downstairs.

KADISHAI continues to serve at the Prime Minister's Office. But while he still has the title of *chef de bureau*, Kadishai does not have anywhere near the influence he did in Begin days.

The real power in the PM's office adviser, Yosef Ben-Aharon, who recently was named deputy director-general of the Foreign Ministry, for special duties, in addition to his titles as Shamir's chief-of-staff and political adviser. Some people say that Shamir does not make a move without Ben-Aharon's approval.

STAR WARS

PUBLIC FACES / Mark Segal

SHAMIR'S WIFE, Shulamit, also has considerable influence on her husband, and is said to have been influential in the Ben-Aharon Foreign Ministry appointment. Last week Mrs. Shamir filled in for the premier at a luncheon tendered by Ramat Gan mayor Uri Amit.



Shulamit Shamir, said to be an influence on her husband (Uri Amit)

It's an open secret that Mrs. Shamir was one of those who persuaded her husband to accept Nessim Gaon's suggestion to make Ovadia Sofer our ambassador in Paris. This week, the premier denied having asked Sofer to urge Gaon to put the brake on Tami's Aharon Abushakra, after the latter got the early-election bandwagon rolling. The premier was contradicted by Tami's Labour and Social Affairs Minister Aharon Uzan, who confirmed Sofer's role as an intermediary between Shamir and Gaon.

Meanwhile, the Geneva tycoon has been less than kind to the Israeli press. In a Swiss TV interview this week, Gaon urged that Israel impose censorship on "sensitive economic issues."

THE FAMILY WAY. Gaon's Khartoum-born and Munich-based cousin, Edward Seroussi, this week was touted as one of the mystery men in the Ezer Weizman camp. According to my sources, Seroussi and Weizman have several joint business ventures, especially in deep-sea fishing.

Called in to provide some much-needed cash for the Weizman campaign this week was another old friend, Wall Street lawyer — and recently-named New York State banking commissioner — Leon Charney. Charney, who has ties with ex-president Jimmy Carter, may also be able to add some shine to the big-business and ex-general image of the Weizman clique.

Tel Aviv Mayor Shlomo (Chich) Lahat and Tel Aviv University President Moshe Many this week served notice that they would not join the Weizman group. I've heard that Aluf (res.) Benny Peled, the hawkish ex-commander of the Israel Air Force, has been asked to join the Weizman ticket.

Meanwhile, Ezer and Rami Unger, his partner in the Lancia and Daihatsu car agencies and in the Avis rental franchise, lost the BMW distributorship. Winners in that contest were the families of Economic Coordination Minister Ya'acov Meridor and his ex-partner, Milla Brenner, whose lawyer, Labour Knesset faction head and Haifa attorney Moshe Shabat, played a key role in the negotiations.

I GATHER that there's been quite a response to the idea that Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek should run on his own non-party ticket. He'll let his friends know his response when he gets back from abroad.

HERUT's Ehud Olmert this week sprang to the defence of the Israel Bonds organization and its president Yehuda (George) Halevi, after the story broke of a group of coalition MKs seeking to influence the Treasury and Knesset Finance Committee chairman Shlomo Lorincz not to favour the Bonds' exchange rate when they mature.

They reportedly argued that Halevi only invited opposition politicians on speaking tours.

I gather that one of the critics is Deputy Knesset Speaker Meir Cohen-Avidov, who knows little English. Olmert, a popular speaker in the U.S., denied his fellow MKs' charge of Bonds partisanship, saying, "It helps to know English."

CLEARING HIS DESK after five years as director-general of the Israel Broadcasting Authority, Yosef (Tommy) Lapid has begun to speak more freely. In a radio interview, he repeated what he had told *The Jerusalem Post's* Judy Siegel-Itzkovich a fortnight ago: The book he will write about this experience should be entitled *Five Years in Pith*, since he never had time to eat a proper lunch.

His advice to his successor, Uri Porat: "Never forget that the IBA belongs to the people, and not just the government of Israel."

Describing himself politically as belonging to the centre, Lapid declared: "The left branded me as right-wing and the right accused me of being a leftist."

In his final report, Lapid noted, "the only case in Western democracies of a cabinet minister exceeding his authority (in this area) was former finance minister Yoram Aridor's attempt to influence the IBA. His battles against then TV economic reporter Elissa Spiegelman cost us millions. The day Aridor appointed Spiegelman to be the Israel Investments Authority



Expected to drop out of the U.S. presidential race (according to the astrologists); Ronald Reagan and Gary Hart.

chief in New York was a bad day for political and journalistic morality."

WHILE LAPID will return to *Ma'ariv*, outgoing IBA chairman Prof. Reuven Yaron will become ambassador to Sweden. At Television House they are gearing themselves for the new trio of political commissars: NRP appointee Micha Yaron as chairman, right-wing Liberal David Admon as his deputy, and Begin's hard-line press counsellor Uri Porat for Lapid's job. Labour's duo on the management committee are two coming men: Labour Knesset faction secretary Dr. Israel Peleg and Amiram Nir, a former TV military correspondent, who recently became Peres's *chef de bureau*. Nir



is married to Judy Moses, daughter of Yediot Aharonot publisher Noah Moses.

FILM STAR Liv Ullmann, who has been touring Israel with her mother, was recently the recipient of the Israel Bonds' Young Leadership Division's Sabra Society's Israel Cultural Award. She was co-recipients with singers Peter, Paul and Mary at a dinner-dance held at the Hotel Pierre in New York. The awards were presented by Israel's Consul-General Naftali Lavie. The star was also chosen president of the Sabra Society, the Young Leadership Division's elite group. Previous society heads include composer Marvin Hamlisch. Heading

the Bonds' Young Leadership Division is Zvi Shevach, usually a resident of Ramat Hasharon.

SWEDISH AMBASSADOR Sven Hirdman says that his government does not rule out the possibility that Raoul Wallenberg, the saviour of 100,000 Hungarian Jews from the Nazis, is still alive at 72 in a Soviet prison. "It is a working hypothesis," he says.

The Swedes now have conclusive evidence that Wallenberg was alive years after then-deputy Soviet foreign minister Andrei Gromyko claimed he had died in 1947. Hirdman, who devoted years of his work at the Swedish Foreign Ministry to the Wallenberg case, hotly denies charges that his government never really pressured the Soviets to reveal the true fate of the Swedish aristocrat.

PARTY LINE. Esther Rublin was the guest of honour at an affair given by Manhattan super-theatrical agent Milton Goldman at his Sutton Place apartment. The cross-section of collectors, socialites and show business celebrities included: Nella Rubinstein, widow of Arthur Rubinstein, who brought along her new *Nella's Cook Book*; acting couple Eli Wallach and Anne Jackson, who recently completed a 40-minute fund-raising film for the Tel Aviv Foundation; Claire Vogelmann, whose American Friends of the Shenkar Textile School raised \$200,000 for the Ramat Gan college in 1983; and entertainer Mike Burstyn, poised to start a new career on American TV.

Mrs. Rublin is featured in her lovely home in Caesarea in a recent issue of *Town and Country*, where the Beautiful People's magazine showed Israel's art collectors at home. Others on display: Mrs. Gita Sherover; Zalman and Ayala Abramov; Eliahu and Zefira Ilia;

Walter and Beatrice Eytan and Ephraim and Dora Gad Ben-Artzi.

PRESIDENT Chaim Herzog managed, on the eve of his departure for England, to hold a reception at Beit Hanassi for the top executives of Time-Life. They included the editor in chief of Time-Life, Henry Grunwald, the managing editor of Time magazine, Ray Cave, Time's chief of correspondents Richard Duncan, and the Beirut-based Middle East bureau chief, Roland Flamini, who is replacing William Stewart.

The Time-Life contingent reached Jerusalem after a Middle East tour, the results of which can be read in their current interview with King Hussein of Jordan and Hafez Assad of Syria. While here, they met everyone from Premier Shamir and opposition leaders Peres and Rabin downwards. They also toured Southern Lebanon, taking in Sidon and Beaufort Castle. It turned out that Grunwald was born in Vienna, which he left in 1938, and his father was a well-known operetta librettist, the most famous of whose works was the *Countess Maritza*.

TOURISM MINISTER Avraham Sharir this week toasted Rumanian Minister of Tourism and Sport Nicolae Gavrilescu, who said that he had hesitated about coming on the scheduled visit because of the impending elections. But, he added, "Politics is politics and tourism is tourism." Sharir noticed that Gavrilescu was the first tourism minister to come to Israel from an Eastern European country, and thanked his guest for trying to arrange tours to China for Israelis. The Rumanian visitor also mentioned plans for package tours for his countrymen to Israel and Arab countries.

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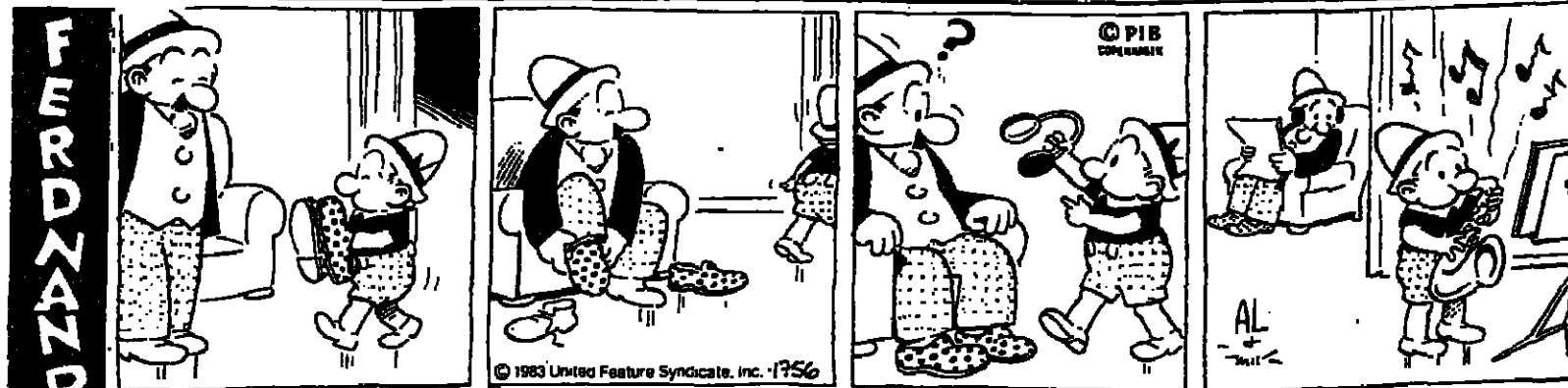
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Mr. Freij goes to Washington

By WOLF BLITZER / Washington

BETHLEHEM's popular mayor, Elias Freij, came to Washington on Tuesday, a guest of the State Department. It was his first serious visit to the U.S. capital since 1978. He had a full schedule of meetings with senior State Department officials, members of Congress, academicians, journalists, Arab diplomats and others. There were sessions arranged for him at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, the American Enterprise Institute, the Foreign Press Centre, the National Press Club and other prestigious institutions. In short, he was royally welcomed as a moderate Palestinian leader prepared to live in peace with Israel.

When we met for coffee at the Embassy Row Hotel, he was clearly tired from the seemingly endless rounds of discussions. "This is the first day I have had a chance to rest," he said. But ever the politician, he was determined to continue. "It is the destiny of Israelis and Palestinians to live together in peace," he said, repeating his basic theme throughout his meetings in Washington. "We must live as good neighbours, each in his defined homeland or state."

The war in Lebanon, he continued, has underlined "once and for all" that no military solution is really possible, "but time is running out for a peaceful settlement." He cited the "high speed and frightening" Israeli settlements in the West Bank and Gaza, which eventually would make it impossible.

BUT FREIJ is not yet prepared to give up. He came to Washington shortly following a highly-publicized mission to Jordan, together with nearly 40 other West Bank leaders, including six mayors. There, they met with King Hussein and, despite threats of possible Israeli reprisals, with PLO chairman Yasser Arafat.

During the meetings in Amman, Freij emerged as the spokesman for the West Bankers. Their objective was to obtain a commitment from Hussein and Arafat to enter into peace talks. But that, of course, did not occur.

In fact, Hussein shortly thereafter denounced U.S. policy in the Middle East — resulting in the cancellation of the Reagan administration's proposed Stinger anti-aircraft missile sale. The king was clearly sending a signal that he did not really anticipate any movement on the diplomatic front during the U.S. presidential campaign. Therefore, why bother to irritate the Syrians with talk of peace negotiations?

Freij agreed that moving up the Israeli elections will mean the suspension of any serious thinking about difficult Israeli concessions in the near future. In the course of discussing those elections, he demonstrated an impressive understanding of the Israeli political arena and the main — and sometimes not-so-main — characters involved. "I know a lot about Israeli politics," he asserted. "It's my business."

THE BETHLEHEM mayor, a Palestinian Christian whose gift shops in Manger Square are a regular tourist attraction, has survived the bitter and enormously complicated world of the Arab-Israeli conflict all these years by demonstrating a reasonable streak. He is pragmatic, someone who is willing to accept the possible, rather than vainly seek the impossible even as he continues to pay his respects to the PLO.

Thus, while certainly aware of the clock ticking away on the West Bank and the dangers of stalemate,

he is not about to start hitting his head against the wall in advance of U.S. and Israeli elections.

As a result, he focused on practical issues with Secretary of State George Shultz during their more than an hour's meeting on March 26. The former mayor of Gaza, Rashad Shawwa, also took part in the discussion.

Freij was anxious to come up with some humanitarian ways to improve the quality of life for the West Bank and Gaza Palestinians. He of course found a receptive ear in Shultz, who has been promoting this concept almost from the day he took office in 1982.

SPECIFICALLY, Freij wanted the Reagan administration and Congress to increase direct U.S. economic assistance to the Palestinians in the territories. To this end, he also met with Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs Richard Murphy and the director of the Agency for International Development, Peter McPherson.

In recent years, there has been a modest U.S. aid programme to the West Bank, but most of the money has been channelled through private voluntary organizations, such as the Quakers and other religious and humanitarian groups. The bureaucracy has been cumbersome.

Freij also pushed for increased U.S. aid to the West Bank during separate sessions with Republican Senator Charles Percy of Illinois, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, and Democratic Representative Lee Hamilton of Indiana, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East. These are the two panels on Capitol Hill which would have to authorize any official aid.

NATURALLY, the controversy over the effort in Congress to move the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem has become a focal point of Freij's discussions in Washington. He has repeatedly been asked his views, which, of course, are strongly opposed to such a move. "I doubt very much whether it will happen," he said after his meeting with Shultz.

Still, I advised him not to be too surprised if there is some significant change in U.S. policy toward Jerusalem in the coming months.

More than 200 members of the House and nearly 400 members of the Senate have already co-sponsored the Jerusalem Embassy legislation. A floor vote in the coming weeks, therefore, is almost assured of success.

That would leave President Reagan with an either/or dilemma. A veto of the bill would seriously antagonize Israel's supporters around the U.S. Both Democratic front-runners, Walter Mondale and Gary Hart, favour moving the embassy. Reagan's own campaign strategists — as opposed to the State Department and others in the administration — are cautioning against any veto. Those big electoral states with large Jewish populations — New York, Florida, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Il-



Bethlehem mayor Elias Freij (Richard Lobell)

linois and others — could be lost in November.

But Reagan, administration officials said, is also very sensitive to the State Department's arguments against any change in the current U.S. policy. Shultz and others have warned of possible anti-American violence erupting throughout the Arab and Moslem worlds.

What Reagan would very much like to see is a reasonable compromise, one that would take him off the hook. In the end, I told Freij, that may result in some sort of formal U.S. recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital, even if the embassy is not moved right away. There may be some steps taken to place the U.S. consulate in Jerusalem under the direct control of the embassy in Tel Aviv.

FREIJ HAS certainly developed a better personal relationship with Defence Minister Moshe Arens than with his predecessor, Ariel Sharon. For one thing, they meet regularly, although Freij has still not been invited to a session with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. (Freij seemed to speak almost fondly of his two meetings with former prime minister Menachem Begin, although I am sure there was no love lost between the two.)

What impressed him was Arens' speedy decision to lift some bureaucratic restrictions hampering travel across the Jordan bridges. He described his meetings with the present defence minister as productive, saying that "his style is very different" from that of his predecessor.

What about substance? "Yes, there is substance," he replied. "On day to day matters, in dealing with people, you can really feel the change."

That does not mean that Freij has come to accept the Israeli presence on the West Bank; he would still

like to see it go away. He realizes that this is not going to be an easy or quick development.

He believes that a Labour-led government would promote the peace process better than the Likud, although he is reluctant to get involved in domestic Israeli politics by talking publicly about it. The last thing he wants to do is give hard-liners in the Likud a campaign issue.

LIKE OTHER Arabs who come to Washington, Freij must be depressed when he compares their reception by their best friends — namely, Americans of Arab ancestry — with that accorded to Israeli leaders by the American Jewish community. In recent years, Arab Americans have become better organized politically, but they are still split in many directions and lag far behind the Jewish community.

For example, the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, headed by former South Dakota Senator James Abourezk and Dr. James Zogby, has been an outspoken supporter of the PLO and a bitter critic of the Christians in Lebanon.

The American Lebanese League, on the other hand, has been behind the Christians in Lebanon right down the line. It has been considerably more willing to accommodate with Israel. This is important, since most of the approximately two million Arab Americans are Lebanese. The National Association of Arab-Americans, an umbrella group which has registered with the Congress to lobby along the lines of the American-Israeli Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), is closer in its basic orientation to the Anti-Discrimination Committee.

But the Arab American community, as a whole, has not really followed the example of their American Jewish counterparts in establishing the generous fund-raising apparatus to help their co-religionists in Israel. Thus, Mayor Teddy Kolek can raise impressive sums in the U.S. for his Jerusalem Foundation. In 1978, Freij had a similar idea for beautifying Bethlehem; but he noted sadly that it came to nothing. "I simply didn't have anyone here in the States to help me get the job done."

What stood out in his remarks — as in the comments of other visiting Arabs over the years — was a grudging admiration for the American Jewish partnership with Israel. "We need our own UJA," he said, but he doubted it would ever get off the ground.

In Washington, there is deep respect for the Bethlehem mayor. He is seen as reflecting hope for the future of Israeli-Palestinian reconciliation and according to all accounts, he reinforced that impression during this latest visit. But other Palestinians and Jordanian leaders are going to have to join his pragmatic approach before anything concrete gets off the ground. Like those early Zionist leaders who were willing to accept the partition of Palestine in the 1940s, Freij recognizes that half a loaf is better than no bread.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

SHABBAT	BEGINS	ENDS
Jerusalem	5.19 p.m.	6.34 p.m.
Tel Aviv	5.37 p.m.	6.36 p.m.
Haifa	5.30 p.m.	6.35 p.m.
Beer-sheva	5.36 p.m.	6.35 p.m.
Eilat	5.36 p.m.	6.35 p.m.

Tora Portim: Tazria: Parashat Hahodesh.

JERUSALEM
JERUSALEM GREAT SYNAGOGUE, Friday, Mincha 5.30. Shabbat: Shabbat Y. Minha 5.35. Maariv 6.30. Cantor: Naftali Herzig and the Jerusalem Great Synagogue Choir, under the direction of Eli Jaffe.

YESHURUN JERUSALEM CENTRAL SYNAGOGUE, Friday, Mincha 5.40. Shabbat: Shabbat Y. Minha 12.45. 5.25. Maariv 6.35. Blessing the month: HAZAN ASHER HAINOVITZ.

WORLD COUNCIL OF SYNAGOGUES, Conservative, 4 Agnon, Friday, Mincha 5.40. Shabbat: 8.30. Dvar Torah: Rabbi Dr. Yosef Green. Hazan: Dov Kaplan.
Hebrew Union College, Jewish Institute of Religion, 13 King David St., Saturday morning service at 10.15 (Reform).

Italian Synagogue at Museum of Italian Art, 27 Rehov Hillel, Mincha, Fridays, 20 min. after candle lighting Shabbat, Shabbat 8 a.m.

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Christ Church (Anglican) opp. Citadel, 8 a.m. Holy Communion, 9.30 a.m. Family service, 6.45 p.m. Evening service.

Baptist Congregation 4 Narkis, West Jerusalem, Saturday services: 9.00 a.m. Hebrew; 10.30 a.m. English. Tel. 225942.

St. Andrew's Church of Scotland, near Railway Station, Sunday Morning service, 10 a.m.

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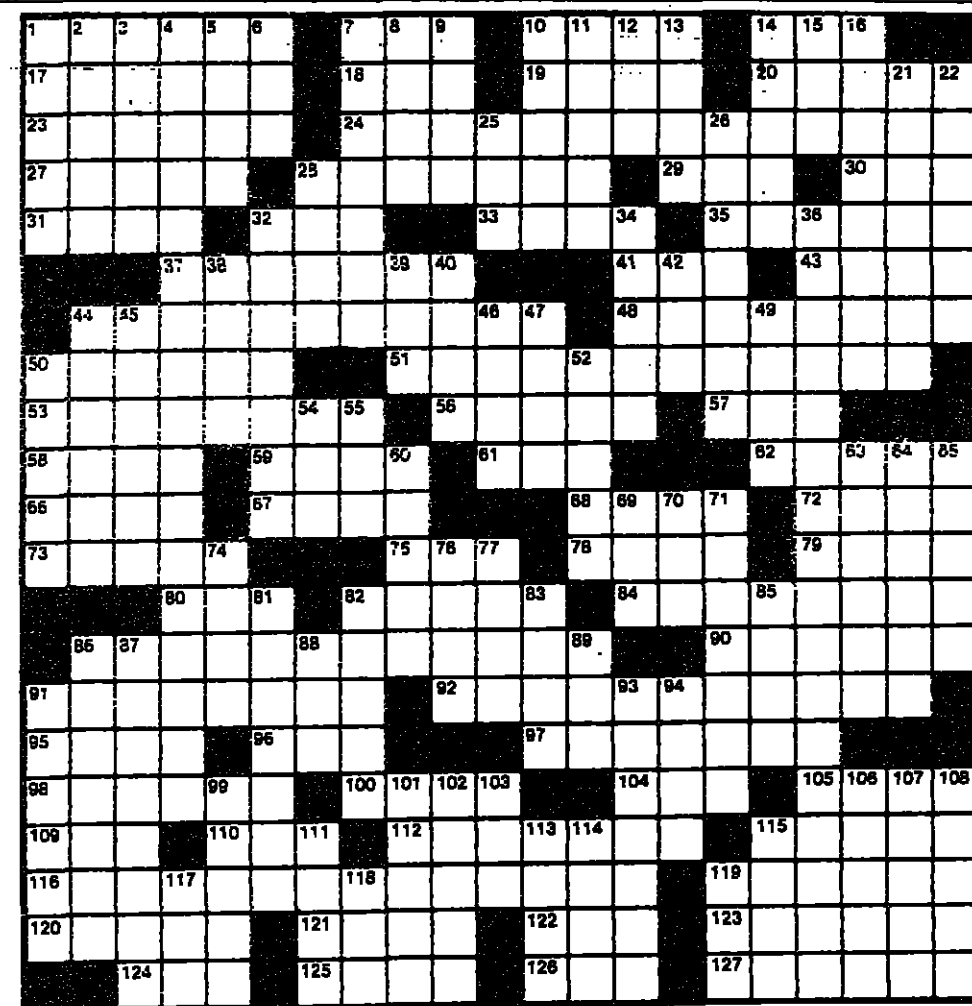
THE NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE SOLUTIONS TO TODAY'S PUZZLE NEXT FRIDAY

Pairaphrasing

By Jim Page/Puzzles Edited by Eugene T. Malesko

ACROSS

- Crèche setting
- Pol. union: 1958-61
- Diamond item
- Paleozoic or Victorian
- Will will
- Hoopster's org.
- Half a seaport name
- Skin flick
- Make the scene
- 607's protection
- Finger-bowl accessory
- An A.F.C. player
- 506, to Nero
- Author Santha Rama
- Etc. kin
- Debussy's "La"
- Jumble
- In full court
- Quarantine
- Miscalculate
- Pierre's guardian
- Ezra's meter
- Went over galley proofs
- Battle standard
- Archie's mouth
- Like lawmakers
- Klempner and Kruger
- Brain tracing, for short
- Taunt; jeer
- Present times
- Beethoven's Ninth, e.g.
- Twist; squeeze
- City ESE of Bergen
- Jolity
- Sound measure
- It followed "Type"
- Shoplifter's crime
- It's concerned with rtes.
- Lagomorph
- No good
- Fixed
- Oak tree
- Actor-singer Barve
- Comedy
- Moore of "Arthur" fame
- Activity of some demons
- "Fire and Ice," e.g.
- "Rule, Britannia" composer
- Bishopric
- Fall, as the market
- One of the finches



- Dick or Schick
- Buzzing insect
- Glory
- Bull
- Citation's sire
- "We" robbed! Joe Jacobs
- Dress material
- OPEC vessel
- What a "midnight ride" horse earned
- Mountain crests
- Drew out, e.g.
- Braves' pitcher of yore
- MacLaine, to Beatty
- "Honor Thy Father"
- Plains
- Mountain Comb. form
- Thickwit
- Guitarist Segovia
- Reduce price a bit
- Seeress's card
- Trajan's courtyards
- Fulton's oratory
- Impose a tax
- Netherlands town
- Take off a belt
- Busy as
- "The" is to the swift
- Bender
- Resting places for Leo
- Ins. salesman, e.g.
- He played Cassidy
- Finally, in France
- Chafe
- 16 Iglesia attendee
- "Look Back"
- Osborne
- Drew out
- City in Baden-Württemberg
- Late, as a train
- Portrait
- Harbor activity
- Helots
- Sally's childhood environment
- Printer's term
- Add up
- Prefix for dollars
- Jewish compulsory title
- Exile
- Make possible
- Former A.L. team
- Sheriff's rep.
- Once more
- Sired
- Pizazz
- One of a Tenn. eleven
- Homophone for you
- Tranquillity
- Starts rolling
- "I will... thee go..."
- Gen. 32:26
- Aussie's stone
- Henry Harley Arnold's sobriquet
- Ice-hockey great
- "I have no tongue"
- Rothke
- off (irate)
- 47 Down is one 73 Jal
- Hero of an Old French romance
- The saurus name
- Guernsey and Jersey
- Sea swell
- Most agile
- Feathered
- Ending for ethyl
- Appomattox figure
- Rooms, in Lyon
- Age; antiquity
- Expanse of ice
- Water pitchers
- Spookish
- Pool person
- Hebrew letter
- Change; vary
- 107 Presidential adviser
- 108 Irish Gaelics
- 111 Fair-to-middling
- 113 Verde
- National Park
- Goddess of the rainbow
- 115 Algerian seaport
- 117 Shoe-width
- 118 Word with East or West
- 119 — standstill

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

Across: 1. Crèche setting; 2. Pol. union: 1958-61; 3. Diamond item; 4. Paleozoic or Victorian; 5. Will will; 6. Hoopster's org.; 7. Half a seaport name; 8. Skin flick; 9. Make the scene; 10. 607's protection; 11. Finger-bowl accessory; 12. An A.F.C. player; 13. 506, to Nero; 14. Author Santha Rama; 15. Etc. kin; 16. Debussy's "La"; 17. Jumble; 18. In full court; 19. Quarantine; 20. Miscalculate; 21. Pierre's guardian; 22. Ezra's meter; 23. Went over galley proofs; 24. Battle standard; 25. Archie's mouth; 26. Like lawmakers; 27. Klempner and Kruger; 28. Brain tracing, for short; 29. Taunt; jeer; 30. Present times; 31. Beethoven's Ninth, e.g.; 32. Twist; squeeze; 33. City ESE of Bergen; 34. Jolity; 35. Sound measure; 36. It followed "Type"; 37. Shoplifter's crime; 38. It's concerned with rtes.; 39. Lagomorph; 40. No good; 41. Fixed; 42. Oak tree; 43. Actor-singer Barve; 44. Comedy; 45. Moore of "Arthur" fame; 46. Activity of some demons; 47. "Fire and Ice," e.g.; 48. "Rule, Britannia" composer; 49. Bishopric; 50. Fall, as the market; 51. One of the finches; 52. Fulton's oratory; 53. Impose a tax; 54. Netherlands town; 55. Take off a belt; 56. Busy as; 57. "The" is to the swift; 58. Bender; 59. Resting places for Leo; 60. Ins. salesman, e.g.; 61. He played Cassidy; 62. Finally, in France; 63. Chafe; 64. 16 Iglesia attendee; 65. "Look Back"; 66. Osborne; 67. Drew out; 68. City in Baden-Württemberg; 69. Late, as a train; 70. Portrait; 71. Harbor activity; 72. Helots; 73. Sally's childhood environment; 74. Printer's term; 75. Add up; 76. Prefix for dollars; 77. Jewish compulsory title; 78. Exile; 79. Make possible; 80. Former A.L. team; 81. Sheriff's rep.; 82. Once more; 83. Sired; 84. Pizazz; 85. One of a Tenn. eleven; 86. Homophone for you; 87. Tranquillity; 88. Starts rolling; 89. "I will... thee go..."; 90. Gen. 32:26; 91. Aussie's stone; 92. Henry Harley Arnold's sobriquet; 93. Ice-hockey great; 94. "I have no tongue"; 95. Rothke; 96. off (irate); 97. 47 Down is one 73 Jal; 98. Hero of an Old French romance; 99. The saurus name; 100. Guernsey and Jersey; 101. Sea swell; 102. Most agile; 103. Feathered; 104. Ending for ethyl; 105. Appomattox figure; 106. Rooms, in Lyon; 107. Age; antiquity; 108. Expanse of ice; 109. Water pitchers; 110. Spookish; 111. Pool person; 112. Hebrew letter; 113. Change; vary; 114. 107 Presidential adviser; 115. 108 Irish Gaelics; 116. 111 Fair-to-middling; 117. Verde; 118. National Park; 119. Goddess of the rainbow; 120. 115 Algerian seaport; 121. 117 Shoe-width; 122. 118 Word with East or West; 123. 119 — standstill.

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MUSIC

THE ISRAEL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA (Yehudi Menuhin, conductor) performed at the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, Tel Aviv, March 25. The concert was conducted by Yehudi Menuhin, with soloists: Herta and Paul Amir, pianists; Rami Ben-Zion, violinist; and the Israel Philharmonic Chorus. The program included: Tchaikovsky's "Variations on a Theme by Paganini" for violin and orchestra; Beethoven's "Symphony No. 9" for orchestra; and a concert by the Israel Philharmonic Chorus.

THE EDUCATIONAL aspect of the last youth concert offered by the IPO this season had less to do with the music performed than with the performers themselves. For the five soloists, aged 12 to 18, the event was a glamorous introduction to the professional music world, with Zubin Mehta welcoming each on the Mann Auditorium stage flooded by TV lights, a hall bursting with a sympathetic audience, and Ram Evgan, at his witty and intelligent best, acting as MC. To the youngsters in the audience, it offered a tangible explanation for all the gatherings and games their school friends had missed because of the long hours spent in practicing. And for the grown-ups who came to gauge the state of the art in years to come, it turned into an afternoon of joy and pride.

The young soloists, hand-picked for the occasion by Zubin Mehta from among the recipients of the America-Israel Cultural Foundation scholarships, were truly remarkable. They all shared an effortless ease of stage demeanor; performing with the Philharmonic seemed such a natural and pleasant thing to do. Each, even at this early and highly fluid stage of development, exhibited an impressive artistic quality.

THE 15-YEAR-OLD clarinetist, Yehuda Yehuda, rendered the Weber Concertino with great warmth and lyric feeling. His phrases were beautifully shaped and the long melody lines never broke up. The dynamic diapason of his velvety sound was rich, although the solo part was occasionally overwhelmed by the orchestra volume.

Hillel Tzori, at 18 the oldest of the lot, took on the demanding "Rococo" Variations. The virtuoso fireworks of the score were handled with unflappable confidence, and the lyric episodes profited from a rich and noble tone. What escaped the young cellist, however, was the sentiment of Tchaikovsky's music, the expression remaining prim to the point of boredom.

Bracha Koi, 13, plays the recorder, and she is a wonder. She presented the Samartini with such infectious enthusiasm, such musicality, brilliant precision and flair, that no listener — young or old — could possibly have listened to her playing without experiencing pure, sunny happiness.

The 12-year-old Elisha Abes took his audience to the rarefied realm of the spirit. His Mozart radiated maturity, concentration and an expressive power remarkable in a musician of any age. The piano sounded exquisite and the pianist's poise was something to marvel at.

Ran Zemach, 14, is a tall youngster, with unassuming stage manners. His hands are huge and the fingers with their strength and precision might have been made of steel. He offered a firm, brilliant, sensitive yet emotionally austere performance — a vintage Rachmaninoff.

It is not an easy field these gifted young people are entering — the highly-strung, competitive world of the musical profession. The rewards, however, are great. One wishes them all luck and success.

ELI KAREV

ISRAEL SINFONETTA, BEERSHEBA. Mendel Rodan conducting, with Shlomo Mintz, violin, (Conservatory Hall, Beersheba, March 25). Beethoven: Symphony No. 4, Op. 60; Brahms: Violin Concerto, Op. 26.

IT IS A GREAT compliment to the Israel Sinfonietta: that for their gala concert, with Shlomo Mintz as soloist, the majority of Israel's music critics made the pilgrimage to Beersheba for the event. Of course, most of the credit must go to the violinist's personal appearance, rather than to the work he played the Bruch Concerto — a composition hardly worth such a long drive.

But Mintz went all out to get the maximum romantic emotion and rich sound out of his part, his technical qualities demand the highest respect. He is able to roll off the most record-breaking runs and arpeggios seemingly without moving a muscle or expending undue effort — very reminiscent of Yitzhak Perlman. Needless to say, the audience did not let him off easily, and two encores were added: the Gavotte from Bach's Third Partita by Bach rendered with noble restraint; and another acrobatic display — a Caprice by Paganini — richly rewarded the enthusiastic public.

MENDI RODAN presented Beethoven's Fourth Symphony in an exacting and very precise reading. Worked out down to the smallest details, the flow of the music nevertheless retained continuity and logical development. Some accents were probably a bit too hard, with the overall sound being too

compact for the acoustic limitations of the Conservatory Hall, and the Finale hastening to a near breathtaking conclusion. But the genius of Beethoven was served brilliantly by the conductor and his musicians, and the performance was one of the finest I have heard for a long time. A proud celebration of the ISB's 10th anniversary.

YOHANAN BOEHM

HAIFA CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY. The Tel-Aviv Quartet (Haifa, Beth Haim, March 24). Tel: String Quartet No. 1; Haydn: String Quartet in D Major, Op. 20, No. 4; Schubert: String Quartet in C Major, Op. 163.

THE EVENING offered contrasting works and was a highly satisfying contribution to this year's programme of the Haifa Chamber Music Society.

The well-prepared reading allowed the musicians to show their musical and technical prowess in a lively and interesting performance, starting with the latest familiar item — Tal's first string quartet. Written in the Sixties, its mildly modern style created a special atmosphere and intensity. The composition is melodious with some cantilena solo parts for violin and cello. The performance was very warmly received by the audience.

Tonal balance, smoothness of performance and alertness marked the presentation of the Haydn, from the clear opening, through the expressive playing of the theme and variations of the slow movement, and the charming *Minuetto alla zingaresca*, to the lively ending.

Marcel Bergman joined forces in the rendering of the Schubert quintet. Except for some tired moments in the Adagio, the whole presentation was convincing and faithful to the music's spirit. The musicians exhibited a harmonious interpretative approach in their teamwork, beautiful phrasing, rich dynamic gradings and personal involvement.

ESTHER REUTER

HISTORICAL FIND

By REUVEN YARON/Special to The Jerusalem Post

A FEW MONTHS ago, during a visit to my favourite Tel Aviv bookseller, he put before me a little booklet. Printed at the imperial press in Prague, it contained a speech delivered on April 12, 1814, the eighth day of Pessah 5574, in one of Prague's oldest synagogues, the Meiselsynagogue. News had arrived that morning of the capture of Paris by the allied armies arrayed against Napoleon.

How much was the little booklet, I casually asked my bookseller, who knows the values of his wares, and will always make sure that any error should not be to his detriment. He quoted an outrageous figure. "Anyhow, not my field," I murmured, putting the booklet down.

But driving up to Jerusalem, I was thinking of that speech by Juda Jetteles, described as a warden of the Israelite community ("Israeliten-Gemeindevorsteher"). Basically I am a legal historian, but several elements in the booklet converged to pique my curiosity.

I resolved to have another look at the booklet. To do so, I paid a visit the next morning to the Jewish National and Hebrew University Library on the Givat Ram campus, intending to read the Jetteles speech then and there. My experience has been that for matters Jewish, one will probably find what one seeks in that library. Well, if that is the rule, the present case was the exception to it.

The author was there all right, but not this specific contribution of his. I had checked the major catalogues, those of the British Library, the Bibliothèque Nationale, the American National Union Catalogue. The results were uniformly negative: I found traces of Juda Jetteles, but not of his April 1814 speech.

I FELT like a child deprived of a toy, which had suddenly become important simply because it was unavailable. Where else could one look for it? Prague was altogether on a different planet; there remained the Österreichische Nationalbibliothek in Vienna, but if I waited for a possibly negative reply, the copy I had seen in Tel Aviv might be long gone. I took a deep breath, phoned my bookseller and the Jetteles speech was mine.

Whenever I commit a sin like this, I try to atone for it by not only reading what I have acquired, but also by reading about it and around it.

The speech is less than Cicero's. Jetteles, however, was speaking off the cuff (*aus dem Stegreife*), as he takes care to mention on the booklet's title page, and apparently he was new in his post, as he notes that this was his first address before this venerable assembly of learned rabbis, meritorious authors, respected officials and learned men.

The speech does demonstrate his familiarity with the Bible, as he marshals suitable scriptural support for his statements. Of course, the booklet, studied with footnotes and learned observations, is but a rewritten version, put on paper after the event.

Jetteles takes a theme from the *Haftara*, the portion from the Prophets read in the course of the day's service. It is Isaiah 10:33: "Behold, the Lord Zebaoth shall lop the bough with terror; and the high ones of stature shall be hewn down, and the haughty shall be humbled." Appropriately enough, Jetteles transfers this prophecy from Senacherib to Bonaparte. It is rather surprising, however, that this

text is quoted as taken "from the gospel (*evangelium*) of the day."

The use of the term "*evangelium*," a typically Christian expression, as equivalent of *haftara*, is rather odd in a Jewish milieu.

Jetteles refers to himself as "seized by patriotic feeling," about to proclaim what he calls "the liberation of Europe." He asks rhetorically, "Who has already recovered from astonishment about the greatest event of the times, about the capture of Paris?"

THE SPEAKER is at his best in summarizing the long period of Bonaparte's supremacy: "How long had Europe to bear the pressure of a haughty conqueror? A human being, bearing his deeds proudly on his brow, crowned with victory by favourable chance, thought himself invincible, and wished to throw into fetters prince and commoner."

Neither the tears of widows and orphans, nor the wringing of hands of women deprived of marriage could touch him."

There follows (somewhat of an anticlimax) an outpouring also of Bohemian patriotism: "A Bohemian, dear brethren, so history will relate, a Bohemian, the offspring of an illustrious house, the House of Schwarzenberg, has completed the great work, and broken the yoke of tyranny."

After expressing his gratitude to God, the *Gemeindevorsteher* leads his community in a series of cheers, detailed in a footnote: "Here the assembly called out aloud, after the speaker: Long live our most gracious father of the country, our emperor and king, Franz II! Long live our most gracious mother of the country, Maria Ludovica Beatrix! Long live the High Allies! Long live the victorious hero of the time, the Field Marshal Prince of Schwarzenberg!" And, for good measure: "Long live all the high and lower state officials!" (This was pragmatic recognition of the fact that the good-will of the local bureaucracy will often be of no less importance than the favourable attitude of a far-off king.)

WHAT THEN is specifically Jewish about the occasion? Not much. But one might read carefully the subtle shadings of the final passage of the speech:

"So I too finish the prayer for peace, and beseech thee, Almighty, make us happy soon with a blessed peace, and beseech be well with thy people Israel. Our most gracious father of the country, who combines in himself all the virtues, and armed himself only for the sake of peace, in order to establish the happiness of mankind, who loves all subjects in an equally fatherly way, he will, as soon as his wisdom counsels him (*sobald seine Weisheit es ihm rät*), look benevolently also upon us, and make us participate in the common weal. God bless thee Israel with peace, Amen."

What we have here is the yearning for equality, justified and based on identification with the country and its ruler. But there is in this plea nothing urgent, nothing immediate. All is delayed to an undefined future, "as soon as his wisdom counsels him."

Well, Frank I was elsewhere preoccupied. The early 19th century was not a particularly favourable period for the Jewish subjects of the Habsburg empire. Many restrictions, petty as well as burdensome ones, continued to be in force. Acceptance by the Christian environment could be achieved only by apostasy. To become

equals, the Jew had to cease being a Jew.

JEITTELES, scion of an established Prague family, and a man of considerable erudition, prominent as linguist and translator and writer of prose and poetry, was born in 1773. He was a leading representative of the Jewish Enlightenment movement in Prague, and is also credited with having coined the Hebrew name for that movement, *Haskalah*.

His father Jonas, well-known as a physician and medical writer, played an important part in the Prague Enlightenment movement. He was a moderate, cultivating close contacts with Moses Mendelssohn, but was also a friend of Rabbi Ezekiel Landau, the pillar of Prague orthodoxy in the second half of the 18th century.

The attitude of the Jetteles clan to their environment may have been typical. Late in the 18th century or early in the 19th, there was a significant switch from Jewish nationalism to patriotism among the Jewish population. Jewish nationalists became Austrian, Prussian, French and English patriots.

What they wished to stress now was their desire to belong to a fatherland. The Jewish nomad, the "wandering Jew," wished to become sedentary.

Juda Jetteles was one of the fathers of Jewish Habsburg patriotism, and it seemed that a symbiosis of Jewish nationalism and Austrian patriotism would be relatively easy to achieve in what was after all a multinational state.

Actually, it was an unstable transitional stage, especially in those wealthy, enlightened circles then in the process of shedding their Jewish orthodoxy. Religion, which for centuries had been a source of immense strength and resilience, became a mere burden, a set of rules and prohibitions, barring the way to social advancement and intellectual fulfilment. These could be attained at the price of baptism, and there were those who felt little compunction in paying it.

The Mendelssohn family is the best illustration of this trend. Moses Mendelssohn was possibly the most prominent German Jew for many generations and the spiritual leader of enlightened German Jewry. Yet in terms of adherence to the Jewish faith, the collapse of his family was immediate and drastic.

On a smaller scale, the Jetteles clan was no different: Juda and all his brothers remained Jews, but Juda's son Aaron was baptized in 1828 (as were the sons of Juda's brother Baruch).

It ought to be pointed out that the desertion from Jewry did not become a mass phenomenon.

As the 19th century approached its end, rampant anti-Semitism contributed to a return to Jewish nationalism in assimilated circles as well. Zionism is the most pronounced feature of this trend.

A Jetteles who did not destroy his Jewish identity through baptism and escaped destruction by the Nazis was Berthold (Issachar Baer) Jetteles, a strictly Orthodox Jew born in 1875. Interned at Theresienstadt, he was put on a train to Auschwitz, but was returned because there had been 10 too many on the transport. He died in 1958, aged 83.

[The booklet containing the speech of Juda Jetteles is now at the National Library in Jerusalem. Its catalogue number: R 83 780].

The author is the outgoing chairman of the Broadcasting Authority.

THE JERUSALEM POST

HALUACH HEHADASH—Classified Advertisements in cooperation with MA'ARIV, HA'ARETZ, HA'IR, KOL HA'IR.

All classified advertisements for Friday submitted to Haluach Hehadash head office by 5 p.m. Thursday preceding publication appear in this section.

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Lawyer's office requires experienced secretary/typist, part-time. 02-240784.

Attendant required, unskilled, for elderly woman. 02-58622.

Manpower requires mechanical engineer for interesting, varied work. 233436-7.

Manpower requires Hebrew/English typists. 233436-7.

Manpower requires practical engineers or technicians in the electronics field, with experience in development in computers. 233436-7.

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Secretary, Sunday-Thursday, 08.00-17.00, and Friday, 08.00-13.00, Hebrew typing and reception essential, at least 3 years experience, English typing an advantage. 521201.

Seeking experienced printer and apprentice. 02-414616, 02-221574.

Seeking clerk grade 1, bookkeeping experience. 02-414616.

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Store manager, Jerusalem centre, English-Hebrew and sales experience necessary, great opportunity. 221964.

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Experienced metalworker for May-July at home with two children. 02-67119.

Seeking sales hostesses for cosmetics products, with experience. 221020.

Lawyer's office seeking experienced secretary, typing. 233287.

The United Nations Trust Supervision Organization has a vacancy in its headquarters at Government House, Armon Hanatziv, East Tel-Aviv. Applicants must be fluent in English and Arabic or Hebrew. Applicants should send CV to: UNTSO, 02-716225-5, ext. 383, or 385.

Energetic worker for various jobs in new plant. 02-337903.

Worker for silk printing, experience not necessary. 221964.

Mechanical graphic artist for graphic department of dynamic plant. 337905.

Accounting office seeks experienced bookkeeper. 221964.

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Sare Company seeks security personnel for guarding, good terms. 240507, 228437.

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Serious maintenance worker with gimmel licence for babies' furniture shop, references essential. 226443, 8.30-10.00, 15.30-16.30.

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Nurses, Ltd., requires nurses, also secretary, with languages (Yiddish, German, English). 222699, Amram.

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Manpower requires carpenter + work experience, ability to read blueprints, independent. Work. 233436-7.

READERS' LETTERS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir — As elections approach, the country has renewed its interest in the problems of the Labour party leadership. A major spotlight of attention is now focused on ways the popular former president Yitzhak Navon might become a part of that leadership.

The speed with which Shimon Peres tipped the delicate Knesset balance decisively in favour of early elections strengthened his own position as party leader. Navon's major asset remains his public opinion poll ratings, as well as the fact that he is neither Peres nor his decade-old rival Yitzhak Rabin; like the nation at large, the party public is tired of the squabbling at the top. Fear of a massive turn within the party to the option of naming Navon party leader has forged an alliance of common interest between Peres and Rabin. If Rabin declares his candidacy against Peres, the party majority will go for Navon. The common interest, responsible for part of the unusual team effort which characterized the Labour effort in the Knesset last week, dictates an effort to involve Navon in a senior capacity before the elections in order to cash in on his electoral appeal without surrendering the senior party positions.

In this regard, there have been several suggested roles Navon might fill. Chief among these have been

NAVON'S OPTIONS

proposals for Navon to be Labour's candidate for foreign minister, or a deputy prime minister and the cabinet authority on social policy.

Of the two, the second choice is to be preferred, not because Navon lacks the requirements of a foreign minister, but because no one has those requirements in such abundance as Labour's current candidate, Abba Eban.

It would be bad politics indeed, and a grossly uneconomical use of human resources were Labour not to support Eban as candidate for foreign minister. He is worth a division of consuls, spokesmen and public relations experts. The enormous respect Eban commands in the international community is not an asset in such generous supply that it can be ignored. Nor can anyone else in Labour match Navon's ability to authentically project the sense of social caring and solidarity so vital for a labour movement taken seriously because it takes itself seriously.

Of course, there is no reason to reject out of hand the possibility of a Navon leadership; the choices to be made in this election are too fateful by far to pretend that "voter appeal" is of too little significance to influence the party's choice of leader. A Navon leadership, however, would

require a difficult and wrenching transition in a short time frame, and the extra strength it adds would fade quickly once Navon begins to speak to the divisive and bitter controversies which dominate our political culture, rather than continue to talk within the rather more confining, if popular, framework of consensual norms, the "motherhood and apple pie" nostrums of Israeli political discourse. Will a dovish and left-of-central Navon appeal in the same way as Navon the Great Unifier? How could he escape the electoral burden (albeit political necessity) of fully explicating his — and the movement's — views on Lebanon, the West Bank and the economy?

In any event, Yitzhak Navon will make a welcome addition to the Labour leadership. It would be a shame, as well as a blunder, to silence Eban's eloquence or passive succumb to the assassination, in broad daylight, of Shimon Peres' character and abilities. Among others, these two have carried Labour's debate against the Likud for the past seven years.

NORMAN JACOBS

Tel Aviv.

WAFFEN-SS REUNION

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir — I would like to draw your readers' attention to the reunion of the *Totenkopf* division of the Waffen-SS in the town of Oberaula, West Germany, on March 31-April 1.

Last year, a similar meeting of former SS members took place in Bad Hersfeld. However, as a result of a worldwide campaign, the municipality of Bad Hersfeld declared that such meetings would no longer be welcome in the town.

THE REIGN OF MEDIOCRITY

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir — Must I conclude, after 20 years in Israel, that public leadership is now reserved for mediocrity? Are Israel's finest minds to be driven to despair, her imaginative industrialists pushed aside, her men of valour humiliated by a "Watergate" designed by incompetent mediocrities who fear for their position? What future is there in Israel today for talent afire with energy and desire to lead and to contribute to a better society?

Recently, the system here has systematically shot down potential excellence. The current scandal in the Israel Police is the latest event to follow this tendency. It is obvious that fear of new ideas supported by fresh energy and seasoned with battle experience has moved the stagnant police to take brass action. Naturally their activities are centered on expelling the threat of excellence.

Will the Israeli public allow this to happen once again?

JUDITH LIBER

Tel Aviv.

WE ARE ALL HUMAN BEINGS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir — In her letter of March 14, Rachel Gray writes that she was horrified by the reaction of the storekeepers in Jaffa Road who, after the hand grenade explosion, turned away wounded people in search of help. I quote: "Personally, I would not feel comfortable entering a store that turned away a wounded Jew — it could have been me or you or him."

What does being Jewish, Christian, Moslem or Buddhist have to do with an injured person in need of help being turned away? Shouldn't we rather talk about human beings? That it would be a horrifying experience, if anybody, bleeding, wounded or helpless were turned away?

ANNIKA BRUHNS

Jerusalem (Hamburg).

PURIM STREET FAIR

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir — Contrary to Michael Eilan's report of March 20, I thought the Ben-Yehuda Purim Street Fair was a fantastic "folk happening." True, it was a mob scene, but the crowd was orderly, friendly, and delightfully costumed. The essence of the day was to see and be seen and the more the merrier. I found several open spaces and even spots to sit. Perhaps scheduling various activities at different times and places along the mall would alleviate the central crush next Purim. *Kol hakavod* to the organizers of this special event!

Nahariya. NANCY C. MILGRAM
Michael Eilan comments: It seems Nancy Milgram was lucky. Lots of people fainted and the police had to restore 40 children to their parents.

SAD EXAMPLES OF RELIGION

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir — The examples set by "religious" men who leave the sanctity of the Jewish home on a Sabbath eve to walk into the centre of a city and deliberately cause a public disturbance; who illegally exhume a body from a Jewish cemetery and deposit it in a Moslem cemetery; who desecrate the Sabbath by maliciously damaging another's property; who throw stones at moving vehicles on the Sabbath putting the lives of others in danger, are not, I hope, examples on which our religion will be judged.

The behaviour of these so-called religious persons was and is wholly to say the least, and one can only hope that these wrongdoers will be brought to justice swiftly according to the law of our land.

The Jewish religion is something that has kept our people together for thousands of years and one hopes that this same wonderful religion will not be used as the excuse for splitting our people apart a time, when more than ever, we need to stand united.

JOHN COHEN

Ra'anana.

THE BRUTALIZATION OF SOCIETY

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir — Mr. Shmuel Katz complains bitterly and with much justification of the "Brutalization of [Israeli] society" (March 16). He is particularly indignant at the behaviour of the doctors who, setting a pattern for others, willingly inflicted suffering on an innocent population in the name of their own private benefit and interest.

But it was not the doctors who "taught us new norms of behaviour," as Mr. Katz believes. No one group can claim exclusive responsibility for the brutalization of our society. But if Mr. Katz is truly interested in fixing blame where it belongs, I suggest he begin with the

policy of occupation and settlement he so righteously propounds. Where will we find a better example of the willing infliction of inconvenience, humiliation and suffering on a principally innocent civilian population than in our protracted occupation of other people's territory, the daily interference in their lives, the confiscation and settlement of their land?

Together with the rest of us, Mr. Katz is simply learning the lesson his own enthusiasms have always taught: a society that brutalizes another people will inevitably brutalize its own.

WILLIAM FREEDMAN

Haifa.

ELECTION EXPENSES

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir — In the light of the battered state of our economy, the main reason for the downfall of the Likud government, would it be too much to ask Messrs. Shamir and Peres to put

country before party, and not scandalize the electorate by wasting billions of shekels hammering away at each other in unnecessary campaigning?

DAVID ROSE

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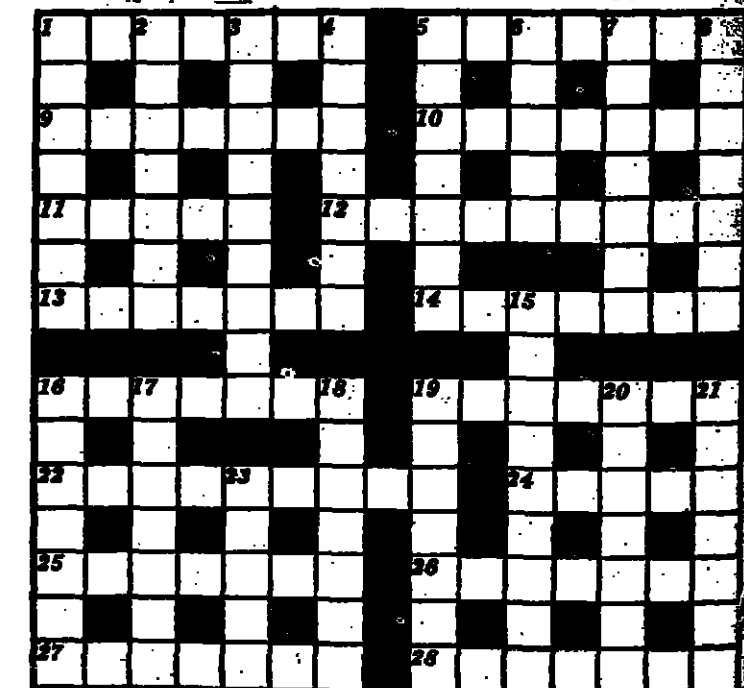
ACROSS

- Additional material to wear, having holes in it (7)
- Got hands to go on strike — good show! (7)
- Take it for granted it's a cheeky thing to do (7)
- Reason out what other factors influences our behaviour (7)
- Not bound to be immoral! (5)
- They take work they consider beneath them (9)
- Usually, remains in the kitchen to make this cake (7)
- In this case, finished jobs in the office (3-4)
- Get out the elastic, perhaps (7)
- Conscripts people — into the Air Force, resembling (5, 2)
- Fancy putting down on paper what they do! (9)
- Rough on the wood cutter, getting rid of it (5)
- Gable, in "Disaster for the Indian" (7)
- People who are in need of others to love them (7)
- For killing the enemy, pin decoration on one? Anything but! (7)
- Anticipated the terrifying way it could be described (7)

DOWN

- Thought a lot of one's opponent's don't amount to much! (7)
- Shakes off a fever, as it were (7)
- Kept stable by the moor as living quarters! (5-4)
- Up to a point, it's ecclesiastical architecture (7)
- Going to say it casually (7)
- Containing many an element, all the same (5)
- Anerkennung face the rest? (Write the opposite!) (7)
- They rule out other family members (7)
- Bell-ringer on call! (9)
- Protector found lying on the beach, and sacked (7)
- Give someone a back injury! (7)
- Lies, hot and bothered, against something (7)
- Poured over-cooked rhubarb, for instance, on to the plate (7)
- The main course? (7)
- Made flatmate happy, in days gone by, to get such men! (7)

Use the same diagram for either the Cryptic or the Easy puzzle.



- Plant in the dahlia-narcissus group (5)
- Glitter (7)
- In strict manner (7)
- Take prisoner again (9)
- Term for money (7)
- Lighter-than-air transport
- Israeli currency units (7)
- Eat away chemically (7)
- Most big (7)
- Signified (7)
- Open area for cattle (5)

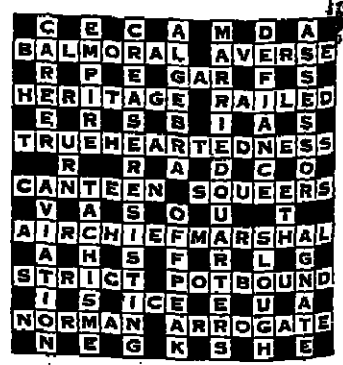
'Quickie'

ACROSS

- Scolded vigorously (7)
- Meals (7)
- A dried fruit (7)
- Bravery (7)
- They employ things (5)
- Blunt in talk (9)
- Musical term (7)
- Witchcraft (7)
- Old paving-stones (7)
- Laughed discordantly (7)
- Arctic creature (5, 4)
- Ex-leader of Argentina (5)
- Beat soundly (7)
- Very wealthy (7)
- Stays overlong (7)
- Chosen by ballot (7)

DOWN

- A small eatable (7)
- Eg. raise a siege (7)
- Mushroom-like fungus (9)
- Children's game (7)
- Says from memory (7)
- Moderately fat (5)



Yesterday's Solution

ACROSS: 1 Fervour, 5 Moore, Angus, 9 Lapwing, 10 Denounce, 12 Inn, 13 Denver, 14 Morass, 15 Nun, 16 Doubtless, 20 Evidence, 21 Capri, 22 Noyes, 24 Eclipse, DOWN: 1 Fraud, 2 Aug., 3 Obscure, 4 Relics, 5 Moped, 6 Orphanage, 7 Engines, 11 Nonentity, 12 Dungeon, 13 Optical, 16 Bustle, 18 Dress, 19 Sotus, 22 Pop.

March ends on positive note

TEL AVIV. March ended on a positive note as balance shares reflected a generally upward tendency. Many observers yesterday had expected to see considerably greater demand for shares. This thinking was largely based on expectations of a strong April performance. However, there was a feeling that many portfolio managers as well as individual investors were holding off making their decisions.

As it was, the General Share Index advanced by a mere 0.02 per cent, but most sectors came through with an upward performance.

The volatile part of the market favored rising shares. There were 17 "buyers only," while only 14 issues were "sellers only." However, 92 issues came through with gains of more than 5 per cent, while 74 fell by similar margins.

Turnovers were not active, but in line with figures seen throughout most of the week. The turnover for shares and debentures stood just under the IS\$20-million level.

For a change the index-linked bond market put in a session which was more active than that of the equity market. Turnovers were in the order of IS\$86m. Prices generally moved up by the maximum 3 per cent, as the banks were the main buyers, in cover of savings schemes.

The devaluation of the shekel began to move ahead at a faster pace, and came to 131 agorot.

With the exception of Bank Leumi, where sellers appeared, other bank shares which are part of the "agreement" remained unchanged, in spite of demand.

Shares, not part of the "agreement" generally moved lower. Maritime Bank 0.1 was 5.6 per cent lower, while the shares of First International were 7 per cent lower.

Mortgage bank shares eased. Mishkan was the major casualty with a drop of 7.6 per cent. Binyan, however, came through with a 10 per cent advance.

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The American Consulate General Jerusalem
announces that its visa section on 27 Nablus Road, Jerusalem will be closed to the public as of 12.00 noon on Friday, March 30, and will reopen at 8.30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 11, 1984, except for those who have immigrant visa appointments.

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

By JOSEPH MORGENSTERN

Issues, by contrast, responded to buying demand and most of them came through with satisfactory advances. Clal Leasing 0.1 had the best performance as it advanced by 9.4 per cent.

Insurance securities also were in good form. A number of issues came through with gains of ten per cent. These included Phoenix 0.5, Menorah 1 and Sahar.

The service and trade sector traded in sedate fashion and without the volatility generally noted in this group. Lighterage, Cold Storage and Bonded Warehouse, for the third day were not traded. The management of the exchange has asked these companies to clarify their exact participation in the purchase of Israel Corporation shares.

Computer issues were mixed, with a general tendency for lower prices. Data Automation was 7.6 per cent lower, while Mashov was 6.5 per cent lower.

Land development, real estate and citrus plantation issues barely managed to end the day on the upside. The newly issued Oren 5 shares were 4.5 per cent lower, as sellers were out in force. A number of ten per cent gainers were in evidence, and these included a Darad 0.5, ALB 0.1, Cohen Development and M.T.M. 1. Sahar Holding 1 and Caesarea 0.1 both suffered identical 10.1 per cent losses.

Industrials were mixed, but on balance the group trended higher. The shares of strike-bound Rogosin were 8.8 per cent lower. The fall came in the aftermath of a number of rising sessions.

The high-technology group was almost completely dormant. Elbit was up 0.3 per cent, while Elron Electronics, the parent company, eased by an identical amount. Arit continued unchanged. Among Clal Electronics sellers predominated, but buyers stepped in and snapped up the shares and their price was left unchanged.

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It may have been a great day for Israeli aviation, as no less than two Concordes made their landing debuts at Ben-Gurion Airport. However, little excitement was to be noted in the aviation group of shares. T.A.T.I., for example, traded unchanged. The Cyclone Aviation 1 shares, however, were 10.1 per cent lower.

Slight buying demand had little effect on the shares of Clal Industries and they traded unchanged.

Investment company issues were slightly lower. Profit-taking overtook the shares of the Israel Corporation. The I.C. shares were 3.5 per cent lower, while the 5 shares lost 10 per cent. Hapsoim Investments, however, picked up a full 10 per cent. Investments of Paz and Pama 0.1 were both 10 per cent losers. Priyon, whose holdings include shares in the Israel Corporation, was down by 4.9 per cent.

Profit-taking eventually overtook the oil sector. Investors are still awaiting the decision on the Plesha I drill site, but so far there are no indications of a commercial oil strike. North America Oil 1 was 14.2 per cent lower, while the 5 shares were on the "sellers only" list.

The Gali shoe manufacturers filed a draft prospectus covering a first-time public financing issue. Leumi Investment Bank will be making the offer on behalf of Gali. The company will offer a package of ordinary shares and options in the sum total of IS\$65 million. The proceeds are intended to cover the cost of new equipment, the extension of the company's marketing organization and fresh working capital. Member of the Oren family are major shareholders, with Leumi Investments holding more than 5 per cent of the share capital.

Danot Investments and Fibi did not trade yesterday as the management of the stock exchange asked for further clarification of a financial transaction carried out by the two companies.

Amosim announced that it has entered into agreement with a foreign construction company to carry out work worth about \$5m.

Most active stocks

Hapsoim r	4020	95,366.5m.	+10
Leumi	2528	76,828.4m.	n.c.
IDB	5878	40,023.3m.	n.c.
Shares traded:	15791.2m.		
Convertible:	1528.7m.		
Bonds:	15886.4m.		

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DOLLAR PAZ AND EURO PAZ PRICES FOR 29.3.84	
CURRENCY BASKET	PURCHASE SALE
DOLLAR PAZ, 1 UNIT	480.4351 486.4295
EURO PAZ, 1 UNIT	561.3264 568.4811
S.D.R.	162.0721 164.0943

FOREIGN CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATES FOR 29.3.84

COUNTRY	CURRENCY	CHEQUES AND TRANSACTIONS	BANKNOTES
U.S.A.	DOLLAR	151.7831 153.6769	150.4400 155.7800
GREAT BRITAIN	STERLING	220.8899 223.6460	218.9300 226.7100
GERMANY	MARK	58.9563 59.6919	58.4300 60.5100
FRANCE	FRANC	19.1625 19.4017	18.3200 19.6700
HOLLAND	GULDEN	52.3849 52.9373	51.8200 53.6600
SWITZERLAND	FRANC	70.1808 71.6444	70.1800 72.6800
SWEDEN	KRONA	19.7479 19.9944	19.3100 20.2700
NORWAY	KRONE	20.3271 20.5808	19.9800 20.8600
DENMARK	KRONE	16.0566 16.2569	15.7000 16.4800
FINLAND	MARK	27.3976 27.7395	26.8000 28.1200
CANADA	DOLLAR	118.8126 120.2950	116.8100 121.9400
AUSTRALIA	DOLLAR	142.2255 144.001	135.8900 147.2800
SOUTH AFRICA	RAND	122.8316 124.3642	103.4800 131.3600
BEELGIUM	FRANC	28.8451 29.2050	—
AUSTRIA	SCHILLING	83.9508 84.9963	83.2000 86.1600
ITALY	LIRE	94.2939 95.4705	89.2500 96.7800
JAPAN	YEN	680.1841 688.6708	674.1600 696.1000

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FOREIGN CURRENCY 29.3.84

Yesterday's foreign exchange rates against the Israeli Shekel, for U.S. dollar transactions under \$2000 and transactions of other currencies under the equivalent of \$500.

Currency	Selling	Buying
U.S.	153.6770	151.7828
Swiss	223.5232	220.7677
DM	59.7450	59.0062
French FR	19.3975	19.1584
Dutch G	52.9190	52.2667
Swiss FR	71.7614	70.8767
Swedish KR	20.0298	19.7825
Norwegian KR	20.5808	20.3271
Danish KR	16.2569	16.0566
Finnish MK	27.7395	27.4819
Canadian \$	120.2950	118.7564
Australian \$	144.5332	142.7515
Belgian C101	29.2181	28.8580
Belgian F101	28.1434	27.7954
Austrian S101	85.0888	84.0202
Yen 100	68.7854	67.8177
Italian L1000	95.4908	94.3828
Spanish P1000	104.0457	102.7641

GOLD: 390.20/390.70

INTERBANK SPOT RATES:

U.S.	1.4535/45	per \$
DM	2.5724/25	per \$
Swiss FR	2.1410/20	per \$
French FR	7.9200/50	per \$
Italian Lira	1608.50/50	per \$
Dutch G	1.8035/45	per \$
Dutch G	2.9025/45	per \$
Yen	223.50/60	per \$
Danish KR	9.4350/75	per \$
Norwegian KR	7.4555/50	per \$
Swedish KR	7.6625/75	per \$
Belgian F10	34.58/82	per \$
Belgian C10	32.58/61	per \$

FORWARD RATES:

1 mth.	3 mths.	6 mths.	
U.S.	1.4584/87	1.4584/87	1.4584/87
DM	2.5820/25	2.5820/25	2.5820/25
Swiss FR	2.1427/27	2.1427/27	2.1427/27

Commercial Banks
(part of "arrangement")

IDB	5878	680	n.c.
IDB r	6000	22	n.c.
IDB r A	37000	—	—
IDB on 11	4390	220	n.c.
Discount B r	7850	13	n.c.
Discount A r	7570	67	n.c.
Discount B	660	—	—
Discount on 2	2424	1217	n.c.
Discount B	2424	145	n.c.
Mizrahi on 11	1899	104	n.c.
Mizrahi on 12	30110	370	+10
Mizrahi on 9	1155	370	+10
Hapsoim p	5188	—	n.c.
Hapsoim r	4020	2372	+10
Hapsoim h	4010	298	n.c.
Hapsoim on 8	16000	—	n.c.
General A	10250	23	n.c.
General on 8	24000	2	n.c.
General on 9	10000	2	n.c.
General on 7	493	58	n.c.
Leumi on 1	2528	3039	n.c.
Leumi on 9	3600	12	n.c.
Leumi on 11	970	1808	n.c.
Finance Trade	1811	8	n.c.
Finance Trade r	1811	1	n.c.
Finance Trade	3400	2	+100

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Hapsoim on 8	16000	—	n.c.
General A	10250	23	n.c.
General on 8	24000	2	n.c.
General on 9	10000	2	n.c.
General on 7	493	58	n.c.
Leumi on 1	2528	3039	n.c.
Leumi on 9	3600	12	n.c.
Leumi on 11	970	1808	n.c.
Finance Trade	1811	8	n.c.
Finance Trade r	1811	1	n.c.
Finance Trade	3400	2	+100

Mortgage Banks

Adanot 0.1	1680	27	+4.2
Gen. Mortgage	1695	74	n.c.
Gen. Mortgage	7330	5	n.c.
Carmel r	1134	281	-100
Carmel on	—	—	n.c.
Carmel deb	218	73	-20
Binyan	2528	22	+230
Dev Mortgage r	720	21	n.c.
Dev Mortgage	725	123	-60
Mishkan r	3650	44	-300
Independence	2700	49	-15
Tefelot r	1856	2	n.c.
Tefelot r	1790	101	+90
Tefelot deb 1	585	24	-55
Tefelot deb 2	290	1264	-19
Jaycor 1	305	40	-62
Jaycor 2	290	22	-60
Jaycor ap	309	195	-21
Merav r	395	422	-10

Financial Institutions

Shilon r	287	862	+1
Shilon B	2349	—	+17
Agriculture A	15865	5.01	-835
Agriculture C	16100	—	-850
Leumi Ind r	1575	133	+70
Leumi Ind h	1493	9	n.c.
Hasekeli r	1856	2	+4
Dev. Mortgage h	40700	—	+1500
Dev. Mortgage C	23850	—	n.c.
Dev. Mortgage C	24430	—	n.c.
Dev. Mortgage C	123200	—	n.c.
Dev. Mortgage	6377	—	n.c.
Constructors	719	240	n.c.
Tourism	15840	—	n.c.
Clal Lease 0.1	534	72	-46
Clal Lease 0.5	330	117	+23
Clal Lease deb	1045	77	-20

Insurance			
Aryeh r	960	122	+50 -5.5
Aryeh s	4250	48	-40 -5.5
Aryeh sub deb	4250	—	+150 +3.7
Argal 0.1	1274	29	-142 -11.2
Argal 0.5 h	387	107	-43 -10.0
Reinsur 0.1 r	960	64	n.c. —
Reinsur 0.5 r	308	136	-8 -2.5
Hadar r	365	30	-30 -7.6
Hadar s	221	156	+1 -0.5
Hasekeli r	655	737	-24 -3.6
Hasekeli on 1	—	—	—
Phoenix 0.1 r	1400	3	+75 +5.7
Phoenix 0.5 r	545	31	+50 +10.1
Hamishmar r	690	3	+30 +4.6
Hamishmar s	640	6	+30 +4.6
Hamishmar op	790	18	+40 +5.3
Yardenia 0.1 r	225	b.o.i.	+25 +5.1
Yardenia 0.5 r	225	124	+15 +7.1
Yardenia on 1	195	66	n.c. —
Menorah s	1616	18	+147 +9.0
Menorah	410	67	+30 +7.9
Sahar r	1529	5	+139 +10.0

Ari Rath
Editor and
Managing DirectorTHE JERUSALEM
POSTErwin Frenkel
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Adar-II 26, 5744 • Jamadi Thani 26, 1404

Agonizing choices

"IT'S NOT EASY," Mr. Yitzhak Navon was quoted as remarking yesterday. And indeed his decision, which he has undertaken to announce today, is a difficult one for him and a fateful one for his party and for the nation.

It is not misplaced pride for Mr. Navon to regard himself as Labour's brightest hope for the premiership. The polls registering his popularity have been remarkable in their consistency. Remarkable too is the fact that he has stayed on top even though he has deliberately kept a low public profile during his year-long cooling-off period.

But this, as he must doubtless ponder to himself, could be a weakness too. His broad and deep popular support still stems from his success in his former role as President. Truly he acquitted himself well in that post; but it is a post which is cocooned from the searching and testing criticism to which political leaders are constantly exposed. There is no better example of that than the manner in which the Likud has continuously sought to discredit Mr. Peres.

Once Mr. Navon decides to so expose himself, and especially if the exposure is bound up with a gruelling personal struggle in his own party, and then with a general election, the prestige of the Presidency may quickly fade.

Mr. Navon must ponder too the relative harmony which the Labour Party's two perennial rivals for the leadership, Mr. Peres and Mr. Rabin, seemed to achieve when the election suddenly loomed. That harmony, once unravelled, might be hard to recreate. And its unravelling could cause the party massive damage.

One not altogether edifying aspect of Labour's leadership dilemma is its link to the Likud's similar hesitations. Each side is warily eyeing the other. If Navon is Labour's man, then — this is the popular wisdom — David Levy's chances grow greater of wresting the Likud leadership from Prime Minister Shamir.

Fortunately this theory, like so many in the inexact science of psephology, cuts both ways: Levy may shrink from challenging Navon, but may press his ambitions with all the more zeal if Labour is led by Mr. Peres. Similar calculations may influence Mr. Navon or his advisers.

It is fortunate that the calculations are so contradictory, because they are not worthy of consideration.

In the public's view the sole considerations should be that of calibre and quality. But the parties must also consider the electability of their candidates, and now, as well, the costs of acrimonious infighting. Unfortunately, in our political system, the public has few means of affecting these party decisions.

Exploiting a queen

IF THERE WAS anything "appalling" during the British Queen's visit to the Jordan Valley this week, it was not the nearby overflight of two Israeli jets, wary but essentially peaceable in their patrolling. Rather it was the exploitation of the Queen's presence by her royal Jordanian hosts to score political points, and Her Majesty's apparent readiness to be so exploited.

Her reported comment that a West Bank settlement map was "very depressing" seemed to indicate cooperation in this media event staged by King Hussein and Prince Hassan.

Other observers, moved by "the tragedy of the Palestinians" have found it depressing that King Hussein recently ruled out negotiations with Israel even if the settlement-building is frozen. No such opinion has been heard from London.

It can only be assumed that the Queen's advisers let her down. Her role as her nation's ambassador of goodwill is above the exigencies of government policies, or so it is perceived here in Israel, where she has always been held in high esteem.

The Queen's visit to Jordan and the remarks reported during the visit have again highlighted the archaic biases in Whitehall which have hitherto forbidden a visit to Israel by any member of the royal family.

President Herzog had occasion to make the point before his present private visit to England. It was a point well received by the British press. But there is no reason for him to belabour it. The next move is very definitely London's to make.

POSTSCRIPTS

PUNCHING PREACHER

The Rev. David Miles, 22, a former featherweight boxing champion of Wales, took his zeal too far when he punched a couple during a "mission of peace" to try to save their daughter's marriage, a court in Merthyr Tydfil, Wales, recently decided.

Finding the preacher guilty of causing actual bodily harm to Brian Rayner and his wife, Brenda, Magistrate David Rowlands fined him £120 (\$177) plus £60 (\$88) in court costs, and declared:

"It was a case of fools rushing in where angels fear to tread. The motives were good but he was far too zealous in his attempt to do good."

Miles, who said he quit boxing last year to take holy orders as a born-again Christian in the Pentecostal Church, pleaded innocent.

Brenda Rayner testified she put out her hand to try to stop Miles entering her home, when he arrived to try to reconcile her daughter Lynette, 17, with the daughter's estranged husband.

"His face seemed to explode in anger. The next thing I knew his fist came up and hit me in the face," Rayner said. She said he also hit her husband. They suffered black eyes and bruises.

The Embassy of Bolivia is pleased to announce that Mr. Abraham Aizenstat, Honorary Consul, has taken charge of consular matters of Bolivia in Israel.

The Consular Office address is: 15 Sderot Tarsat, Tel Aviv, 64283, P.O.B. 4121. Tel. 03-288066.

Office Hours: Monday and Thursday, 9.30 a.m.-12.30 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 1.30-2.30 p.m.

The American Jewish Committee and

The Student Christian Forum, in cooperation with The School for Overseas Students, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem announce a

Jewish-Christian conversation (in English):

"A Jewish View of the Jewish-Christian Dialogue"

led by Dr. M. Bernard Resnikoff, Director, Israel Office, American Jewish Committee, on Monday, April 2, at 7.30 p.m. at room 410, Goldsmith Building, Hebrew University, Mt. Scopus.

The man of the hour

By YOSEF GOELL

THE MOST important task that will face the government to emerge from the forthcoming elections will neither be getting the army out of Lebanon nor implementing a policy to stave off economic catastrophe, as urgent as both these tasks may be.

It is, rather, effecting a profound national reconciliation after the last three years — the most divisive in Israel's history. No effective policies can be carried out either in the foreign and defence fields or in domestic areas without there first being a broad national consensus and the nation regaining confidence in the government.

Two examples should suffice to illustrate the catastrophic breakdown of public confidence in government of the past year and more.

Never before have so many men, including those who support the war in Lebanon, moved heaven and earth to dodge doing reserve duty in units serving there. The Lebanon War, as wars go, is a piddling one. But the general feeling is that one must be mad to run any risk of being killed or wounded simply because a group of dithering politicians cannot screw up the courage and intelligence needed to get out of what they shouldn't have gotten into in the first place.

There is also a crisis of confidence in the economy, although the Likud, in its fourth try, has finally found a finance minister who knows what needs to be done. And yet, everything Yigal Cohen-Orad had done in his five months in office has in effect been undone by the government's deficit financing, which he has been constrained to approve. That phenomenon can be expected to grow to ever more menacing dimensions in the months ahead.

These deficits are but the economic expression of the lack of confidence of Cohen-Orad's ministerial colleagues in his policies and in the sense of 11th-hour urgency he has tried to convey to the cabinet. A growing spate of labour troubles and recent nervous speculation in the stock market in-

dicare the public's lack of confidence.

For national reconciliation and restoration of public confidence in government, one figure in the public stands out as the man to tackle the task: Yitzhak Navon.

There is no need to exaggerate. There are some aspects of Navon's personality and past performance that pose great question marks as to the sort of prime minister he would make. But both his personality and his past performance, especially in the presidency, demonstrate that he is cut out for tackling the most urgent of our problems.

There is also incontestable proof that Navon is by far the man most likely to be elected among those Labour could put atop its list.

TO BE SURE, in recent months the polls have been showing that Labour would win even under Shimon Peres; but Navon according to these same polls would win even bigger.

The danger in depending on what the polls are saying about Labour under Peres is two-fold. They were saying the same thing in February to April 1981, but in the end the Likud under Begin managed to turn the tables sufficiently for a hair's-breadth win over front-running Labour. The electorate is volatile, and such a turnaround could happen again.

Secondly, winning, for Labour, does not mean merely getting more votes and more Knesset seats than the Likud. The goal is that of forming a viable cabinet that can command the confidence of the people and rule effectively. For that, Labour has to win big enough to be relatively free of enthrallment to many small parties with the blackmail that entails.

This, too, is a challenge to which Navon can stand up better than Peres.

The two impediments in the way of a Navon candidacy are Navon himself and the fearful politicians of the Labour Party.

The very aspect of Navon's per-



sonality that makes him so suitable for providing the sorely needed leadership of consensus and reconciliation is also responsible for his dithering in the quest for the top spot. He has never had the heart for an all-out political fight.

Navon by now has had more than the seemingly cooling off period following his departure from Beit Hanassi last May. He has had more than enough time to mull over the problems of contesting the leadership against his good friend, Peres. The hesitating like Hamlet should come to an end now, and Navon must make up his mind to reach for the mantle of leadership of his party, and of the country.

Labour Party politicians are mostly concerned that a fight for the leadership at this time could split the party. There is good reason to believe that they are wrong.

There are indications that the Kibbutz Meuhad supporters of Yitzhak Rabin, and possibly Rabin, too, are prepared to line up behind Navon. Yisrael Galili and Yitzhak Ben-Aharon, one a super-hawk and the other a super-dove, are reported to hold such a position.

The Peres supporters in the party are more motivated by fear of rocking the boat than warm admiration for Peres. For, as tragic as it may be for Peres, the fact of the matter is that his lack of popular appeal, which was only partly engineered by Likud hatchmen, is reflected in the attitudes of many party leaders, including those counted as "Peres men."

Navon has proven that he has the personality of a conciliator; he must force himself to evince the iron resolve that is required of all national leaders; and he must also show, now, the wisdom that alone can square the circle of seeking and winning his party's leadership while keeping it intact and raring to go into the electoral fray.

The writer is a member of the editorial staff of The Jerusalem Post.

Soap-opera politics

By DAVID LANDAU

FIRSTLY to put things in perspective: Shimon Peres, or Yitzhak Rabin, or Yitzhak Navon, or any combination of the three, would be infinitely better than the present group — the mindless yea-sayers of Menachem Begin, the passive cat's paws of Ariel Sharon.

Having said that, one must consider Navon's candidacy, and the fact — perhaps this is unfair to Navon, but it is true — that his candidacy is itself a by-product of seven years of Likud rule. The considerations behind the candidacy reflect the depreciation of our political life, the cheapening of standards, the pandering to crude ethnicity and to the ad-man.

For what are the considerations? Foremost among them is the thought of that luminary of the Likud, that political heavyweight, the man who in his own eyes is ripe and ready to lead this nation — David Levy.

If Levy stands, such is the conventional wisdom among Navon's supporters, Labour must put up "its own David Levy" in the form of Yitzhak Navon. And if Levy doesn't stand, or is defeated by Shamir — then all the more reason to put up Navon and thus hoist the Likud on its own petard.

Comparisons are odious. Levy might indeed, over the coming years, grow in stature and experience to become a worthy prime ministerial choice.

But his own efforts to run before he can walk are themselves a reflection of Israel's political malaise. The enslavement of politics to transient, fickle popularity, the subordination of seriousness to superficiality, the elevation, one might almost say, of matter over mind.

WHAT ARE the other pros and cons preoccupying the advocates of Navon's candidacy?

He has a lovely wife; that is a pro. But she sometimes behaved stupidly when he was president; that could be a con. They have photogenic kids; another pro. Though they are sometimes naughty; a con...

The issues? Navon's political opinions? They have nothing to do with the case! On the contrary, his sanely dovish opinions are being carefully played down, in the hope that they will be forgotten.

THERE IS, moreover, the obverse side to the candidacy of Navon — and that is the sacking of Shimon Peres.

Justice and sentiment are not the issue here: they have little place in politics. The issue is that Peres, who suffered the slings and arrows of the baying, Begin-incited mob, is about to be thrown to that same mob. Navon will be portrayed not only as better than Levy, but also as the man who deposed the detested Shimon Peres.

There would be a double pandering. Labour would abdicate all am-

bition to stand and fight, as it stood against Begin — and nearly won against Begin "at his best" in 1981.

Again, there is a certain unfairness here to Navon, whose many attributes would, in other circumstances, make him a desirable and almost ideal Labour candidate for premier.

But the circumstances are as they are. The campaign is upon us. Navon, still basking in presidential prestige, must either embark on a bloody deposition and a cellophane-wrapped candidacy of his own — both of which would be designed to undercut, literally, the Likud. Or else he must put his popularity, talents and persuasive powers to work on behalf of his party, as a member of the leadership team fighting together with Peres and Rabin to restore this country to more sober and more rational politics and policies.

THE DANGER to democracy, and not only in Israel, is that the campaign itself becomes the great dictator.

Yitzhak Navon himself expressed the dilemma succinctly. He said, according to *Ha'aretz* yesterday, "What Peres is more suitable to serve as prime minister, but that he (Navon) would be stronger at bringing an election victory for Labour."

Perhaps he was being too modest. Maybe he would make an excellent prime minister and maybe not. The point is that Peres and Rabin have proven that they have at least some of what it takes. Anyone who needs convincing of that is recommended to read Schiff and Ya'ari's book on the Lebanon war, and to compare how Rabin and Peres, with all their bitter personal rivalry, made policy in Lebanon in the seventies — and how Begin and Sharon made it in the eighties.

Unfortunately, for Labour and for the country, Rabin and Peres each showed too that they lack certain leadership qualities — and principally in their treatment of each other. Rabin should have thrown out the "indefatigable subverter" during the cabinet years. And Peres should have done the same to "my dear Yitzhak" when he emerged triumphant from their mauling duel. It is at least arguable that this show of weakness and indecision accounts in part for their relatively low standing in the personal popularity polls.

But that is history, and now — paradoxically — their success seems to hinge on their being able to show that they can pull together.

According to the party pundits, the two perennial rivals had just about worked things out amicably when Navon descended on the scene. Let's hope that he will not be a spoiler now, but will harken to the ancient adage, "If you grab for too much — you grab nothing at all."

The writer is diplomatic correspondent of The Jerusalem Post.

PRE-EMPTIVE STRIKE

By GIDEON RAFAEL

"MOKED" is one of Israel's most popular talk shows. Under the adroit guidance of Ya'acov Achimeir and his colleagues, it has become our favourite TV spectator sport.

The participants on Moked are usually more entertaining than inspiring, playing the same tune, with a number of variations and changes in orchestration.

Election fever normally adds sparkle, but rarely surprise, to the verbal contest. When the contestants of last Wednesday's debate appeared, one was prepared for a routine disputation of four party stalwarts.

With her customary fervour, the indomitable Geula Cohen advocated the merger of her Tehiya party with the Likud, for the glory of Greater Israel. Shinui's Amnon Rubinstein pleaded, with valour and rectitude, for the revival of the moral norms and spiritual values which had made Israel a great nation. Labour's Avraham Katz-Oz convincingly urged a rescue operation, to extricate the country from the seemingly bottomless economic mess and the painful and hopeless Lebanese quagmire, inflicted upon it by the government.

The Likud's Meir Shitrit tried to weather the storm by disingenuously recommending to delete the war in Lebanon from the election agenda. Realizing his failure to convince his fellow panelists, he sprang his surprise.

Apparently shooting from the hip, but revealing the recesses of his mind, he pronounced his ultimate

argument with vigour. The continued criticism of Israel's action in Lebanon, he said with an impish smile, impairs its capacity to launch a pre-emptive strike against Syria.

Had he noticed the flabbergasted faces of his co-debaters, presumably reflected also by his audience, he might have quickly tried to efface his monumental blunder.

But a staunch representative of the Likud is not in the habit of admitting or correcting errors. He thrives on compounding them. Probably, in Mr. Shitrit's mind, his stunning statement was not an error at all, but the acme of wisdom. Perhaps by his amazing indiscretion he intended to prepare the public for another spectacular election stunt as performed by Begin, Sharon and Rafal two weeks before polling day in June 1981. Is such a pre-emptive strike the ultimate election weapon which a sinking Likud is holding in store?

Normal logic refuses to believe that anyone in a position of responsibility could be capable of such an act of reckless madness. Instead of showing how to end the terrible war in Lebanon, Mr. Shitrit conjures up the spectre of opening a new one, this time against Syria. But Damascus is not Baghdad. Perhaps he is unaware of the fact that the military border between Israel and the Soviet Union runs through Kuneitra. Does M.K. Shitrit really propose to court national disaster for party politics?

His party has already caused enough misery and bloodshed, by plunging the country into the disastrous Lebanon adventure. His prescription is not less catastrophic for his party than for the country.

This time the leader of the Likud can hardly expect President Mubarak to hold hands with him, while his finger is on the trigger. Nor is there an indulgent General Alexander Haig around, who presided over the State Department when Israel's forces entered Lebanon and was compelled to resign when they reached the outskirts of Beirut. Haig has just published his memoirs, entitled *Caveat Realism*. A warning to abide by realism is certainly most appropriate and timely. The warning for Israel is: beware of the political and military insanity of an election ploy.

The writer is the former director-general of the Foreign Ministry.

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